

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Central African Republic

Patasse Leaves for UDEAC Summit in Ndjamena

AB1403185094 Bangui Radiodiffusion-Television Centrafricaine Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Text] President Ange Felix Patasse left Bangui early this afternoon for Ndjamena, the Chadian capital, to attend the summit of heads of state of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC]. Prior to his departure, President Patasse stated in an interview granted our colleague Pedinguere Ouporo that Central Africa is ill and that the Ndjamena summit (?will strive) to remedy the situation. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Patasse recording] This Ndjamena meeting is crucial for the subregion. Apart from the problems confronting the Bank of Central African States, there is also that of [words indistinct], and we have to make decisions concerning the UDEAC too. Another issue is the creation of an economic and monetary community in Central Africa. I cannot tell the other countries the prospects ahead of us, but as I told you, the Central African subregion is ill. The subregion needs to wake up the UDEAC. I think we may face some disappointments in Ndiamena. But we are also anxious to know whether we will overcome our nationalistic tendencies and make way for true subregional integration. Achieving this objective will enable our respective peoples to realize that actually their future depends on integration and not on nationalism which has hampered our progress so far. [end recording]

In another interview, President Patasse strongly denounced all acts that might disturb the established law and order. He also stated that the Central African people, who bitterly suffered from injustice, torture, and underhanded dealings, have sovereignly decided to establish a lasting democratic state that can help all Central Africans participate in the management of public affairs. In conclusion, he severely warned the advocates of violence and called on the people to be extra vigilant to block the way to those yearning for past inhumane atrocities they underwent under previous regimes.

Former President 'Struck Off' Regular Army Rank AB1303125694 Paris AFP in French 1846 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Text] Bangui, 11 Mar (AFP)—The former president of the Central African Republic, General Andre Kolingba, was "struck off" the ranks of the Army under a decree signed today by his successor, Ange Felix Patasse, the national radio announced in Bangui. The national radio pointed out that the "striking off" measure against the general was taken through the implementation of a presidential decree signed in 1985 by Mr. Kolingba himself, who was then head of the Military Committee of National Redress.

Under this decree, "the officer struck off the Army ceases to be on the seniority list and thus is not promoted." The decree adds that "any officer who is a candidate in any election or holding any elective office shall be struck off the Army rank." This decision comes a few days after the arrest of several senior officials of the general's party, the Central African Democratic Rally, RDC. These officials were accused of "ordering acts of social tension" in Bangui.

After a meeting on 8 March with President Patasse, Gen. Kolingba observed that by these arrests "he was being targeted" and described these arrests as a "very dangerous derailment of the young democracy" in Central African Republic. The general added that he was not to be held responsible for any social disturbances or unfortunate events that might come up in the country."

Congo

President Says Relations With France Improving AB1403174494 Dakar PANA in French 1327 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Paris, 13 March (PANA)—"I have not come for the purpose of doing a strip-tease dance or to make myself liked, but simply to make myself understood," Congolese President Pascal Lissouba declared in an interview with the PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY at the end of a working visit to France. President Lissouba implicitly confirmed the poor climate of Franco-Congolese relations, however he hinted that the situation was becoming progressively better.

Citing journalists, whom he blames for being more or less responsible for this situation, President Lissouba, in a flash of wit, indicated that "the dark clouds are clearing (...) and things are going to be all right." Issues concerning security and the devaluation were the focus of his discussions with French authorities.

The Congo has asked for French assistance in reorganizing its security services, the weaknesses of which were exposed by the recent unrest in Brazzaville. When questioned about the devaluation, the Congolese president warned against the risk of repeating the maneuver due to negative reactions on the part of the countries concerned.

"The devaluation is just a monetary adjustment. If the economies of African states are in poor shape because negative policies were pursued, it is clear that those same policies will produce the same results as before," President Lissouba stated.

The devaluation should not be perceived as France abandoning the franc zone countries, according to President Lissouba, who advecates subregional and regional cooperation and the joint development of scientific and technological potential.

Speaking on his country's economic situation, President Lissouba announced that an agreement would be signed with the IMF in the "coming days," stressing that "things are well under way." Furthermore, President Lissouba confirmed that his country would reduce the number of civil service employees by 8,000, this on instructions from the IMF. According to President Lissouba, the Congo has the world's highest number of civil servants per capita. He stated that this is because the civil service is the country's sole industry. However, the Congolese head of state gave assurances that the affected workers will be redeployed elsewhere, "as quickly as possible."

Gabon

Government Reduces Curfew in Force Since Dec AB1403200394 Paris AFP in French 1852 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Libreville, 14 Mar (AFP)—The curfew in force in Gabon since early December 1993 has been reduced. It will now be in force from midnight to 0530, that is from 2300 to 0430 GMT, as of tomorrow, the national radio announced today. It was in force from 2100 GMT to 0430 GMT.

The curfew was imposed following the disturbances that marked the reelection of President Bongo on 5 December. The results of the poll were challenged by the opposition, and the government decreed a "state of alert" marked by the curfew and banning of gatherings.

This "state of alert," which was lifted on 13 February, was reimposed a week later, because of a general strike launched by a confederation of labor unions close to the opposition. The strike engendered acts of violence which resulted in the death of nine people in four days, according to official figures.

President Bongo Leaves for UDEAC Summit in Chad AB1503094094 Libreville RTG Chaine Nationale Radio Network in French 0800 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] President Omar Bongo left for Ndjamena this morning to take part in a meeting of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC]. In the Chadian capital, President Bongo and his subregional peers will examine the consequences of the CFA franc devaluation as well as the problems of subregional integration.

Rwanda

Tanzania's Rwegasira Visits for Talks on Crisis

EA1103205094 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1800 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Text] Joseph Rwegasira, minister of foreign affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania, arrived in Kigali early this afternoon. Interviewed on the purpose of his visit, the Tanzanian minister said that he was carrying a message from the facilitator, President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, in connection with our country's political situation.

Mr. Joseph Rwegasira indicated that he was going to meet all those involved in the Arusha peace accord to attempt to solve the current crisis, which prevents the installation of the transitional institutions. The Tanzanian foreign minister comes to Rwanda three days after Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, the Rwandan head of state, visited Dar es Salaam.

Briefed on Transitional Government

EA1303170294 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in Swahili 1430 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Text] Rwandan Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana today received Tanzanian Foreign Minister Joseph Rwegasira at her official residence in Riruhirira. They discussed the problems standing in the way of the formation of a broad-based transitional government.

Minister Rwegasira expressed his concern over the fact that the peace accord was not being implemented and the minister called on all sides concerned to give the greatest priority to the interests of the people, rather than to those of individuals.

The prime minister briefed Minister Rwegasira on the problems facing the installation of the institutions of transitional government as well as the efforts being made to remove the obstacles to pave the way for their installation.

Belgian Defense Minister Views Military Cooperation

EA1103194094 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 0430 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Excerpts] Belgian Defense Minister Leo Delcroix arrived in Kigali early yesterday evening leading a delegation of 13 parliamentarians and about 20 journalists. The minister discussed his visit in an interview with (Seraphin Byiringuru):

[Begin Delcroix recording] First of all, I am here to visit the Belgian soldiers who are members of UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission to Rwanda]. I came here to encourage them. This is my first concern.

Second, I am taking the opportunity of this first visit to make contacts with my colleagues—my colleague at the Defense Ministry, my colleague at the Foreign Ministry—and to see the president, to hold talks on the situation in the country. [passage omitted]

You know that Rwanda is the only country with which we have very special military cooperation. We have maintained it. We had similar cooperation with other countries, but it was suspended. It continued with your

country, and I am happy about this. I will try to continue with it over the coming months and years, but there must be conditions to help me convince our public opinion and my colleagues within the government that it is worth continuing. That is why it is really necessary for the situation to improve within the next few weeks. This is the message I also want to address to your people. [end recording]

Meets With Bizimana

EA1103204094 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1800 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Excerpt] Belgian Defense Minister Leo Delcroix has met with his Rwandan counterpart, Augustin Bizimana, at the Defense Ministry to discuss technical cooperation in the military sector. They expressed satisfaction with the excellent state of this cooperation, particularly in technical and financial assistance and the training of personnel.

The Belgian defense minister indicated that his country was ready to strengthen this cooperation, particularly through joint training of the national army, but stressed that the continuation of this plan would depend on the rapid removal of the deadlock prevailing in the current political situation. [passage omitted]

Zaire

Minister Warns Angola About 'Subversive Statements'
AB1403214794 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network
in French 1903 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Communique issued by Kassenda Mpinga, external relations minister, in Kinshasa on 14 March; read by announcer]

[Text] The Ministry of External Relations wishes to inform the public that External Relations Minister Kassenda Mpinga received Angolan Ambassador Felisberto Monimambo in his office today.

The minister informed the Angolan ambassador that the Zairian Government strongly protests the subversive statements; statements in contempt of the nation's unity and integrity made on Angolan soil by some Zairians in their quest for fame. The Zairian Government regrets that the Angolan authorities have to date not disapproved of these statements which are liable to disturb the fraternal and neighborly relations between the two countries.

The Zairian Government, therefore, calls on the Angolan Government to take all the necessary measures to discourage all those who may try to use its territory as a springboard for acts of destabilization against Zaire. The Zairian Government wishes to reassure the public that it has taken all the necessary steps to protect its territory and, if need be, it will exercise its right to prosecute.

New Party Created; Chairman Discusses Goals AB1303093594 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Text] The Zairian political circle has just expanded with the creation of a new political party, the Alliance of Republicans for Development and Progress [Alliance des Republicains pour le Development et le Progress— ARDP]. The party was created on 1 March and was granted a license by the appropriate department.

In a political statement to the press, ARDP Chairman John Milala Mbono-Mbue explained that the ARDP gives priority to national economic integration and productive efforts aimed at ending the current crisis which the country is going through. He called on all Zairian politicians to rise above self-interest and to leave no stone unturned in putting the country back to work. Furthermore, the ARDP leader called for the launching of a nation-wide mass education campaign to atune the masses to the new democratic process and to enable them to take charge of their own affairs.

The ARDP chairman is assisted by Massoli Molo and Matamo Kuaka as vice chairman and secretary general, respectively.

Uganda

Rebel Activities Threaten Renewed War in North AB1403205794 Paris AFP in English 1421 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Kampala, March 14 (AFP)—The new armed struggle between government forces and Joseph Kony's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels is threatening to bring a new round of civil war in northern Uganda, observers here noted on Monday [14 March].

The fluid political atmosphere caused by eruption of new fighting, followed the collapse in January of secret talks between President Yoweri Museveni's government and LRA rebels, now estimated to number a few hundreds. Museveni, who has insisted that Kony's rebels were now a spent force, issued a three-week ultimatum for the rebels to surrender but they have so far defied him.

The rebels, who claim to be fighting a holy war against what they call a foreign occupation of Uganda, have stepped up ambushes and abductions in northern Ugandan districts of Kitgum, Gulu, Apac and Lira since the talks failed.

Heavily-armed government troops, backed by Armed Personel Carriers (APCs), have on the other hand been deployed at strategic points, along Lira-Kitgum road in preparation for what looks like a possible massive counter offensive against the rebels. Sources here have also said that a low-flying military combat helicopter and a nummber of APCs were now patrolling the bush along the Lira-Kitgum road, an area where the rebels have intensified their activities in the last two weeks, rendering the road impassable and paralysing all normal activities in the region.

Last Monday, the LRA rebels engaged government troops in a fierce battle in the area, which left one rebel killed and a lot of property of fleeing villagers destroyed. The battle was the result of a surprise attack by government forces on the rebels' hideout at Minakulu in Apac district, which forced the guerrillas to pull back towards the Murchson Falls Nataional Park, where they are believed to be having bases, along the banks of the River Nile.

But so far government forces have made no attempts to strike the suspected rebel bases in the national park, the sources said.

The renewed fighting, which observers here expected now to escalate with another big government offensive aimed at wiping out the rebellion once and for all, has thrown the population in the region into panic and revived memories of six years of a bloody civil war, which has killed and injured thousands of people since it erupted with a vegeance in 1987.

Chances for a peaceful settlement appears to have been severely shattered, with both sides apparently now resigned to settle the issue militarily.

Consequently, observers are increasingly fearful that the general chaos and civil disobedience, resulting from the unending rebel hostilities in northern Uganda, could disrupt the democratisation process in this part of the country, which is also home to most leading opponents to Museveni's "no-party" political system.

Two weeks ago, all Constituent Assembly candidates' campaign rallies were suspended for a week in Kitgum district due to growing insecurity. The elections, scheduled for March 28, are only two weeks away, with no near solution to the conflict in sight.

Museveni, who recently concluded a working visit to the war- ravaged region, has again repeated his earlier appeals to the rebels to renounce rebellion, but the rebels appear to be sticking to their guns until the government guaranteed their immunity to prosecution on surrender.

The rebels fear possible charges for torture and murder they committed on the civilian population during their operations in the region, and had demanded government guarantees before they could surrender, but the government rejected the demands.

At least six girls, reported abducted from Puranga Catholic Mission two weeks ago are still being held hostage by the rebels in an unknown locality.

Vice President Receives Nigerian Foreign Minister EA1403161794 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1000 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Excerpt] The vice president, Dr. Samson Kisekka, has on behalf of President Museveni received Chief Anthony Ani, the Nigerian minister of state of foreign affairs and special envoy of the head of state, General Abacha. Chief Ani carried a special message together with fraternal greetings from Gen. Abacha. He expressed Nigeria's appreciation for the cordial and warm relations she enjoys with Uganda. He said his country has been following the impressive progress in Uganda since the National Resistance Movement came to office. Chief Ani also briefed the vice president on the current events in Nigeria, particularly events with regards to her neighbors. His government, he said, believes very much in a united and democratic system for the people of Nigeria which will pave the way for the return to civilian rule. Dr. Kisekka expressed goodwill for the people of Nigeria and peace for the whole of the African continent. [passage omitted]

Deadline for Registering Candidate Lists Extended

MB1503095494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0945 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Report by R. Norton]

[Text] Johannesburg March 15 SAPA—The deadline for registering amended candidate lists for the April elections has changed again—the deadline is now is 4.30pm on Wednesday March 16. Independent Electoral Commission spokesperson Niki Moore said these lists would be the final adjustment to lists registered by parties by March 11.

The names of candidates on these lists would be published in the Government Gazette on Friday.

"Ignore all reports to the contrary—the absolute final revised dealine is 4.30pm on Wednesday March 16," said Ms Moore.

Observers: IEC 'Dangerously Behind Deadline'

MB1203074394 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 11-17 Mar 94 p 3

[Report by Mark Gevisser]

[Text] With under seven weeks to go to the election, the Independent Electoral Commission [IEC] is struggling against late registrations, a debilitating office move, the logistical strain of a last-minute change to two ballots, and conflict between its commissioners and its directorate.

International observers and non-governmental organisations members fear the IEC is dangerously behind deadline, though senior IEC members insist that they are "on track". Both insiders and outsiders agree, however, that the election date cannot be changed.

After just over a month on its feet and a disruptive move from the World Trade Centre to premises in Johannesburg, the IEC is only beginning to put its national infrastructure in place. Furthermore, the lack of clarity on final registration deadlines and the sheer pressure of the task at hand, has caused serious tensions between the IEC's senior directorate staff and its commissioners.

According to senior sources, director of electoral administration Piet Colyn tendered his resignation late last week because of interference by the commissioners, but was persuaded to stay. Colyn, the director-general of home affairs, denies that this incident took place.

Several commissioners confirm, however, that this tension does exist. "All the authority seems to lie with the directorate," said one, "and it's almost impossible for us to find out what's going on. But we are the ones who are ultimately responsible to the electorate." But another commissioner said "our working relationship with the directorate does not have major problems."

Is South Africa going to be ready for an election that will see up to 25-million people pass through about 80,000 voting booths in 10,000 polling stations observed by at least 10,000 monitors and staffed by 207,000 officials?

Senior officers have just been appointed in the nine regions, from which they have until the end of the month to set up offices and recruit and train regional monitoring and administrative staff. And the last-minute registration crises, along with the late decision to move from one ballot to two, have placed an unexpected burden on the electoral timetable.

Many in the international observer missions and in the NGOs that have been doing monitoring and voter education are anxious that the commission appears to be behind schedule.

"People have great expectations," says Alice Coetzee, project director of Idasa's [Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa] Pretoria branch. "I'm scared. If it is a shambles, we're going to muck up our only chance."

This sentiment is generally shared by members of the international conserver community. The following issues have been raised with the IEC by members of these organisations:

- That only a small percentage of the requisite administrative field-staff have been appointed, and that the appointment process is a month behind the timetable the IEC set for itself.
- That provincial offices are behind deadlines.
- That the double-ballot system might put pressure on voter-flow, which might result in tension at the polling stations.
- That the IEC has estimated too few voting compartments.
- That the double-ballot system means many of the polling stations will be too small.
- That the security forces who will play a crucial role in safeguarding the passage of the ballots have not yet been identified and trained.

IEC commissioner Ben van der Ross responded: "We South Africans are a pretty resourceful lot. We're getting the message from the UN crowd that we can't do it. But we'll put this thing together. We're not a Cambodia or one of those places in a state of collapse."

Said Bheki Sibiya, the IEC's regional director in kwa-Zulu-Natal: "Certainly, the situation is slower than it should be...If the job is 'substantially' well done, that's the best we can hope for."

Senior officials of the IEC's monitoring and electoral administration directorates are convinced that, even with the delays and hitches caused by the registration uncertainty, they can have their structures in place in time.

Colyn said that nearly 2,000 district electoral officers will be in place in two weeks. "And once they are there, it's an easy job recruiting officials to staff the polling stations." Monitoring director Peter Harris said his department was also "on track". His department is recruiting and training monitors at the rate of around a thousand a week, and he is certain the 10,000 monitors will be in place by early April. Monitoring logistics chief Francis Wilson knows that anxiety is rife at the apparent lateness of appointments, but said "the bulk of the monitors aren't needed until the polling days."

Van der Ross underscored this point: "Yes, it's true that we need 200,000 electoral officials. But about 150,000 of these are just to be employed for a couple of days, and their job will be quite mechanical. Really, they don't need more than an hour of training."

Mary Burton, presiding officer in the Western Cape, is cool and confident about the task ahead of her: "The time scale looks manageable".

She, along with many other newly-appointed IEC officials, noted that applications for positions and offers of secondment from the business and non-governmental sectors are pouring in. "I think," said one official, "that a few people are panicking, that's to be expected...give us a chance to actually put our structures in place."

Colyn acknowledged that "our major concern is violence. What happens, for example, if the situation is so violent in an area that polling officials don't report for duty? It is my duty to plan for alternatives".

Van der Ross said the double-ballot system has caused logistical problems and there was difficulty in locating large enough polling stations.

The overwhelming sense from all the senior IEC officials canvassed is the election will not be smooth and flawless but, given the limited amount of time, it will happen.

There's an aphorism going round the IFC's new ninefloor premises on Kruis Street: the commission's work is like building a ship while already at sea. Swimming against a tide of unpacked boxes and unconnected telephone-lines earlier this week, one wag was moved to quip: "Let's hope it's an ark, and not the Titanic."

Freedom Alliance Voices Support for Mangope MB1403201294 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The Freedom Alliance has voiced its support for President Lucas Mangope after this morning's meeting in Kimberley. The alliance strongly attacked the South African Government for taking over control of Bophuthatswana.

[Begin recording] [Inkatha Freedom Party President Mangosuthu Buthelezi, in English] We feel what has happened to President Mangope in Bophuthatswana is a disgrace. We believe that what has happened to President Mangope is in fact unchristian. We feel that President Mangope has been betrayed, has been double-crossed, and

we feel that it strengthens our resolve never to take the word of President de Klerk or his government.

[Correspondent Andries van Zyl] The meeting decided that General Viljoen, who has submitted a list of candidates for his Freedom Front, should withdraw from the alliance.

[Viljoen] Our participation in the election depends on a complete accord—there are actually two accords to be fulfilled. The first accord has been entered into with the ANC [African National Congress] and the government.

[Van Zyl] Dr. Hartzenberg said that the CP [Conservative Party] is working hard to prevent a split after rumors that certain CP members support General Viljoen.

[Hartzenberg, in English] We do not promote splits. We are not in favor of splits, and we try to prevent it. Therefore, we talk to each other, and we see whether we can come to a solution.

[Van Zyl] General Viljoen admitted that the tug of war concerning participation in the election could lead to a split in Afrikaner ranks.

[Viljoen] I am very worried about this. It is not a good situation and I have tried to bring about Afrikaner unity, but one reaches a stage where you have to make such a decision. If I do reach a certain decision, then I want to state very clearly that this is not as a result of personal interest. The only factor I consider is what is in the best interest of my people, and I am there to give the strategic guidance. [end recording]

Mangope Still Considering Election Participation

MB1403123194 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The deposed Bophuthatswana president, Dr. Lucas Mangope, says the South African Government has not taken over power in the country, but has looted it politically. Speaking to the media before the Freedom Alliance meeting in Kimberly this morning, Dr. Mangope said he still regarded himself as president of Bophuthatswana, though operating from his residence.

He said the executive management of his political party, the Bophuthatswana Christian Democratic Party, would meet later today to discuss a possible election alliance with the North-West Democratic Party. The Bophuthatswana Christian Democratic Party has not registered as a political party, but the North-West Democratic Party has.

The alliance meeting is to be attended by the leader of the Freedom Front, General Constand Viljoen, the leader of the Conservative Party, Dr. Ferdi Haztzenberg, and the leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Comments on Alliance Meeting

MB1403195594 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television Network in English 1730 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Interview with former Bophuthatswana President Dr. Lucas Mangope at the meeting of Freedom Alliance leaders in Kimberley by unidentified correspondents on the "Newsline" program—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] What is the purpose of this meeting today?

[Mangope] Well, it is to look generally at the situation and to determine the strategy forward.

[Correspondent] Doctor, what is your position in the politics right now?

[Mangope] I have no intention to give up political activity. I am determined politically to fight because, as you are aware, there has in Bophuthatswana been a lot of looting that has taken place. The African National Congress [ANC], the [South African] Communist Party, and the National Party government have looted Bophuthatswana politically also, and I must fight to correct that situation.

[Correspondent] Doctor, you have been dismissed as president of Bophuthatswana by the South African government. Do you accept it?

[Mangope] When Mr. Pik Botha and Mr. Maharaj of the TEC [Transitional Executive Council] came to see me to tell me that I would no more be president, I told them first of all that I had done no wrong at all, constitutionally. I had not broken any law at all. I told them that they have no right whatsoever to remove me; it was the Betswana people who elected me as president, and to show that they were out to loot Bophuthatswana politically, they refused me even to address my people to tell them that they had come to tell me that I would no more be president.

[Correspondent] Do you still regard yourself as president of Bophuthatswana?

[Mangope] I am still president of Bophuthatswana. Constitutionally and legally, I am president of Bophuthatswana.

[Correspondent] Where are you operating from at this point in time? What's the status of your office?

[Mangope] Well, I'm operating from my private residence.

[Correspondent] So the South African Government took over control of Bophuthatswana. What's your reaction on that?

[Mangope] They didn't take over control. They looted control. There was a lot of criminal looting in Mmabatho, and the South African Government looted political power.

[Correspondent] Doctor, in short, your reaction, your feelings on what has happened, the events of the past week, and your position right now?

[Mangope] Well, I think it augurs frighteningly for the future. The future is bleak with the type of communistic political activity that I've seen. I think we have reason to be terribly concerned for the future.

[Correspondent] Is your party going to take part in the election?

[Mangope] Do you know, it is very interesting. When I told Mr. Pik Botha and Mr. Maharaj, after they had told me that I was deposed, that I would be taking part because I have political principles and convictions that I want to espouse, they said I would not be allowed. They have no right to stop me from taking part in politics.

[Correspondent] Do you still have all your cabinet ministers in your government?

[Mangope] My cabinet ministers are 100 percent behind me. My Christian Democratic Party is still intact. We are doing everything we can. If we are allowed, we want to register and fight the elections, because we want to expose the ANC, the Communist Party, the National Party government, for what they are. You know, Mr. Pik Botha came accompanied by Mr. Maharaj, who apparently came to ensure that Mr. Botha carried out his instructions—Mr. Maharaj's instructions...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Can I ask you, please, the last question from my side. The South African Government, the National Party government, gave independence to Bophuthatswana many years ago. Now the same National Party comes and says to you, fine, you are dismissed as president, and you are not independent anymore.

[Mangope] If that is not a diamond bright example of dishonesty, then I don't know what is. Freedom and independence, once given, can never be taken back.

[Correspondent] Are you considering any steps to gain control of Bophuthatswana?

[Mangope] I am going to be about, politically. I am not done with it. I want to assure you that. I want to expose, for the good of South Africa, for the good of South Africa, I want to expose the ANC, the Communist Party, and the South African Government for what they are. For much too long, ever since the beginning of the negotiations, we have had secret deals between the National Party government and the Communist Party, and the ANC. As a result of that, as a result of such secret deals, such as is evidenced by the Record of Understanding, we have this flawed constitution. And I want to tell the South African public, you know, each time they have come to me, it has always been at night. Even Mr. Pik Botha and Mr. Maharaj got to my house at night. I don't know what the reason is for that.

[Correspondent] What's your comment about this irony that in the 1988 attempted coup, Pik Botha came to your assistance, and today it is the same man who orders you out of office?

[Mangope] Doesn't that expose the man for what he is? Does that not expose the man for what he is?

[Correspondent] There's an observation that people voted with their feet to ensure that they have free political activity. Your comment?

[Mangope] I told Mr. Botha and Mr. Maharaj on the 15th of this month, this is next Tuesday, that's tomorrow, my parliament would be taking a decision on whether to register or not, and flowing from that decision, free political activity would ensue. I also told them, flowing from that decision, that my parliament would endorse the South African law that puts into being the IEC [Independent Electoral Commission]. But do you know what? They would not allow me those two days only to put this matter to my parliament. They would not allow me to address my people, my people who elected me as president. They would not allow me to address my people and tell them that I had told Botha, that I had told Maharaj, that they do not have the right to remove me. They have no legal or constitutional right to remove me. They would not allow me that.

[Correspondent] Do you still regard yourself, then, as the president?

[Mangope] I am constitutionally and legally president. They have looted political power.

[Correspondent] What is then going to happen to this parliamentary session? Are you going to go ahead outside of Mmabatho or whatever?

[Mangope] Well, I think you should direct that question to Dr. van der Walt, who is the so-called administrator of Bophuthatswana.

Further on Freedom Front's Viljoen Leaving Alliance

MB1503070894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2113 GMT 14 Mar 94

[By Jonathon Rees]

[Text] Kimberley March 14 SAPA—Freedom Front leader Gen Constand Viljoen has resigned from the Freedom Alliance and on Monday [14 March] vowed to fight the African National Congress [ANC] and National Party [NP] with all means at his disposal. "I will fight them on the beaches. I will fight them on the plains," he said, adding that the mair reason he had registered his Freedom Front for the April elections was to prevent an ANC-NP monopoly in a constitution-making government of national unity.

He blamed the NP and ANC for last week's Bophuthatswana violence, flaws in the constitution and unrest.

Speaking in Kimberley after Freedom Alliance leaders met to discuss their circumstances after recent developments, Gen Viljoen said the Freedom Front might apply for membership of the alliance.

Inkatha Freedom Party President Mangosuthu Buthelezi said the alliance was outraged at the "unchristian, double-crossing betrayal" by the government of Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope.

Mr Mangope said he still considered himself president of the territory and was considering legal action againt the government. "They had no right whatsoever to oust me. I am constitutionally and legally still the president of Bophuthatswana."

Gen Viljoen said his participation in the elections would still depend on certain guarantees from the ANC and NP. Although worried he could cause a split in the Afrikaner right wing, he said his departure from the Arrikaner Volksfront [Afrikaner National Front, AVF] would more likely benefit Afrikaner unity in the long term because there were now two groups on different paths but with the same objective—self-determination and a "volkstaat" [homeland].

Gen Viljoen said his new Freedom Front did not intend to Graw support away from the Afrikaner Volksfront or the Conservative Party [CP], but to recruit other Afrikaners and ex-NP members. This would reinforce support for the volkstaat ideal, he said. "What is important is that we must fight the NF and fight the ANC with everything available on all possible fields we must attack."

He said his decision to leave the AVF was prompted partly by differences in opinion and political thinking with its controlling bodies.

But the last straw was the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB] and its refusal to obey instructions during last weeks' military intervention in Bophuthatswana.

"To me it is very clear that a military option with the AWB would be a most dangerous thing to do. I am afraid I have had enough proof that I can not crust them to obey orders."

Gen Viljoen did not, however, rule out a military solution without the AWB. Asked about reported looming splits in the CP, its leader Ferdi Hartzenberg said although there were "differences of opinion on a small scale" taks were under way in a bid to stave off divisions.

He was confident of a volkstaat being achieved. "We will have our self-determination and freedom in our territory. It is not possible to stop us achieving our ideals."

AVF's Hartzenberg: Power Base 'Virtually Undamaged'

MB15036/0794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2119 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Report by E. van Wyk]

[Text] Pretoria March 14 SAPA—The Afrikaner Volksfront [Afrikaner National Front, AVF] will not contest the April elections and its power base is virtually undamaged, AVF leader Ferdi Hartzenberg said on Monday [14 March]. The decision to boycott the poll had been re-affirmed by the AVF's highest body at its latest meeting, Dr Hartzenberg said in a statement.

In an apparent reference to Gen Constand Viljoen's resignation from the directorate of AVF generals, Dr Hartzenberg said the AVF's power base was "virtually uninjured". The AVF would continue to pursue its ideal of attaining freedom and self-determination for the Afrikaner/Boerevolk [Boer people], he said.

"Participation in the elections is viewed as a fatal choice for the existence of our people and I as leader of the AVF can never commit myself to that.

"The necessary internal Canisational measures have been arranged so that the AVF can continue with its task with the least possible disruption.

"The power base of the AVF is virtually intact and we continue with the implementation of our planning for the next weeks," said Dr Hartzenberg, who is also "president" of the right-wing transitional assembly.

Criticizes Viljoen's Decision

MB1503075594 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] Conservative Party [CP] leader Ferdi Hartzenberg says the registration of General Constand Viljoen's Freedom Front is a political mistake.

Addressing about 250 people at a public meeting in Nelspruit, Dr. Hartzenberg said he had great respect for Gen. Viljoen on military matters, but he said the fact that the general had offered his Freedom Front to the Inkatha Freedom Party and Bophuthatswana to take part in the election, ensured participation in the election and not support for a volkstaat [homeland]. Dr. Hartzenberg reiterated his view that participation would lend credibility to the election, and his party would therefore not take part in it.

[Begin Hartzenberg recording, in Afrikaans—in progress] In this case the constitutional principle—that a nation must have the right to self-determination, to have the right to choose its own government—is being cast aside completely. Here our people do not choose our government, other nations collectively choose a government for South Africa, and that constitutional principle becomes completely crushed. [end recording]

MP Hoon Denies Claims of Support for Viljoen MB1503112294 Pretoria Radio Pretoria in Afrikaans 0530 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] Chairman of the Conservative Party [CP] in the Cape Province and MP for Kuruman, Mr. Jan Hoon, denied in a statement that he supported General Constand Viljoen. He said he is still committed to the National Front and to the CP Executive Committee's decision not to participate in the election. Mr. Hoon said Mr. Viljoen had recently made statements with which he could not identify. One of them was that 85 percent of his fatherland will fall under an ANC [African National Congress] government.

Another development is that CP MP for Lydenburg, Mr. Dries Bruwer, has announced his resignation from politics. He had been the CP's spokesman on agriculture. Mr. Bruwer had also been chairman of the Transvaal Agricultural Union.

Viljoen's Wife Discloses Threats Against Husband

MB1303101294 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 13 Mar 94 p 1

[Report by Z.B. du Toit]

[Text] She is scared for her husband's safety, says Mrs. Ristie Viljoen, wife of General Constand Viljoen. "I am afraid they will shoot my husband," she told RAPPORT yesterday.

While right-wing anger has been boiling over this week over Gen. Viljoen's decision to participate in the coming election, Mrs. Viljoen lifted the veil on warnings last Sunday that an assassination plot on her husband was being planned.

Two telephone calls, in which Gen. Viljoen was told that an attempt could be made to assassinate him, led to the forming of a thick security cordon around the Viljoen couple while they relaxed on their farm near Ohrigstad.

They were warned in two telephone calls shortly after their return from an excursion on the farm to inspect Dr. Vilioen's cattle.

Soon thereafter, Conservative Party leader Ferdi Hartzenberg, who probably knew about the threats, phoned Gen. Viljoen.

Almost immediately after the warnings a large number of men clad in "brown uniforms" and armed with rifles were employed on the farm to protect Gen. Viljoen.

Mrs. Viljoen says she was unnerved by a foreign television crew which lingered unusually long on their farm and even hung around the farm dwelling. She was concerned that they too had heard about the threat and wanted to be on the scene—should something happen.

Gen. Viljoen, who is known for his bravery as a soldier, did not sleep at his usual place that night, but rather spent the night elsewhere.

"I am afraid they will shoot my husband, but the Lord has a purpose for everything," a visibly concerned Mrs. Viljoen told RAPPORT yesterday. "It would be terrible if he had to go in this way, especially since the far right wingers are the people that he always wanted to protect."

She is worried that there is not sufficient control over some right-wing elements. "Yesterday in Mmabatho they threw military discipline overboard and refused to accept his instructions."

However, she finds solace in the new political direction her husband is heading in after his decision to take part in the election.

Her husband—"he is the most loyal man possible"—has done all he could to bring about right-wing unity, but it has just not been possible.

Freedom Front Candidates To Contest Natal Elections

MB1403205494 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] A candidate list with 18 names has been drawn up to contest the Natal regional elections under the banner of the Freedom Front. This follows last week's decision by nine of the 11 Conservative Party [CP] management members to support participation in the elections. The Natal CP's deputy leader, Mr. Duncan du Bois, says that although participation is against the party's policy, the group in reality is promoting the CP's policy of confederalism.

[Begin Du Bois recording] Concerning the future of the CP in Natal, we in the Freedom Front are planning to carry out CP policy—this concerns the homeland issue and also the policy of confederalism, and I think we will have more success than just standing outside the election. [end recording]

Bophuthatswana Administrator's Appointment Rejected

MB1503053594 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afril ans 1800 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] There has been some controversy surrounding the appointment of the former ambassador to Bophuthatswana, Dr. Tjaart van der Walt, as administrator to Bophuthatswana. Robbie Terreblanche reports:

Azapo [Azanian People's Organization], the local ANC [African National Congress], student organizations, and the Lawyers for Human Rights organization are in the forefront of a campaign to oust Dr. van der Walt from his post. Azapo says it rejects Dr. van der Walt's appointment. A spokesman, Mr. Philip Kepac'isa, said that they will make Bophuthatswana ungovernable through stayaway action and strikes. The ANC says Dr. van der Walt

is a companion of Mr. Mangope and has worked with Mr. Mangope to oppose free political movement in Bophuthatswana. Lawyers for Human Rights say they are drawing up a report of complaints against Dr. van der Walt. This will be handed over to the Transitional Executive Council later this week.

TEC Appoints Co-Administrator for Bophuthatswana

MB1503072194 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] The Transitional Executive Council [TEC] has appointed a second administrator for Bophuthatswana and dissolved the homeland's parliament by decree. Earlier, President Lucas Mangope said his parliament would discuss participation in the April election today. However, the TEC said parliament would not meet today and that all cabinet members and MPs [Members of Parliament] were regarded as ordinary citizens without any access to state resources.

The appointment of Mr. Job Makgoro of the South African Development Bank as co-administrator followed objections by several organizations to the appointment of Dr. Tjaart van der Walt as administrator. Meanwhile the TEC's management committee and the South African Government have given assurances that the salaries and pensions of civil servants, policemen and soldiers were safe.

Dissolves Homeland Parliament

MB1503090894 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] In Bophuthatswana, the homeland's deposed president will not be allowed to address his country's parliament today.

The Transitional Executive Council [TEC] dissolved by decree the Bophuthatswana parliament two days ago. All cabinet members and MP's of the homeland are regarded as ordinary citizens and will not have access to any state resources. The TEC also announced that Job Mol.goro of the Southern African Development Bank, together with Dr. Tjaart van der Walt, would take over the running of the territory until after the election. The two men will control all government funds and work with the Electoral Commission, Independent Media Commission, and the TEC. Election officials are expected to arrive in the homeland today to make voting preparations.

Meanwhile the ANC's [African National Congress] first rally in the homeland will go ahead as planned.

De Klerk 'Aware' Senior IFP Leaders Want To Join NP

MB1403173094 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The leader of the National Party [NP], Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has said he is aware of the possibility that

senior Inkatha leaders may be interested in joining the NP. Speaking at a news conference at the World Trade Center Mr. de Klerk said it was technically possible to amend the NP candidate list before Wednesday [16 March] to include disgruntled IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] leaders.

Says Volkstaat Not Possible

MB1403125594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1229 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 14 SAPA—State President F W de Klerk said on Monday [14 March] those still calling for a Afrikaner volkstaat [homeland] were "chasing a dream", because the economic and demographic realities of South Africa did not allow for a volkstaat. He warned that any attempt by the rightwing to disrupt the election process would lead to tragedy, "and (still) the process will continue".

Addressing businessmen in Johannesburg during his one-day election tour of Pretoria and the East Rand, Mr de Klerk said the events which unfolded during the demise of the Bophuthatswana government should make the rightwing "stop in their tracks" and think. Referring to the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB] invasion of the homeland which led to the death of three rightwingers, Mr de Klerk said "the chaos caused by the AWB and (Freedom Front leader Constand) Viljoen's people, should make the Conservative Party's Dr (Ferdi) Hartzenberg stop and think".

Mr de Klerk said a government of national unity under a new dispensation would supply a political framework which would create growth and encourage investment. He said South Africa had an important role to play on the African continent and the international community saw South Africa as the gateway to Africa.

AVF's Boshoff on Right-Wing Attempts for Homeland

MB1303094794 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 11-17 Mar 94 p 16

[Article by Professor Carel Boshoff, head of the Afrikaner Freedom Foundation]

[Text] The intention of the Freedom Front to take part in the coming national election is based on the fact that the Afrikaner needs more than one instrument in his struggle for freedom in his own fatherland. The ultimate goal to obtain his own volkstaat [homeland] is indispensable; it's just a question of how to attain it.

From this point of departure participation in the election has got nothing to do with the acceptance of the 1993 constitution, nor with the legitimacy of the new government. Whoever the government may be, the presence of Afrikaners in the elected structures will be to claim their volkstaat and to make use of every means to achieve their goal.

More or less 2.8-million Afrikaners would not be wise to rely on power or numbers alone. Blacks in South Africa outnumber them by more than 80 percent; unfortunately for both they occupied the same regions in the country. For the Afrikaner, in order to claim a volkstaat of their own, they should become the indisputable majority in the region where they intend to substantiate their claim.

That is not possible before April 27, the day of the election, and, therefore, every opportunity should be taken and all power and knowledge should be applied to bring it about. During that time the Afrikaners should consolidate their interests within the new South Africa, insist on their claim for a volkstaat to be recognised and accommodated in the constitution in an irreversible way.

But there is real doubt the transitional constitution does not provide for that. Political scientists De Villiers and Sindane say: "A unitary system of government has only one power centre and all sub-national units exist at the behest of the centre. The central government can delegate powers to the sub-national units—regions, states or provinces—and can take these back at will. It can dissolve the sub-national units and create new boundaries or new units. Resource allocation as well as budgeting is centrally done. The logic for the establishment of a unitary system is different from that of a federal system."

In a full page analysis of what is called "the final hurdle" in BUSINESS DAY (March 3), a group of concerned business people concentrates on the two real issues: the powers of the provinces are inadequate; the central government can override all provincial powers. It says: under the new constitution and despite the most recent concessions, the central government can override the social welfare policy of a province. The central government can override a province that allows private hospitals. Provinces cannot determine their own trading hours for shops or regular street traders. Provinces have far less regional powers than Punjab in India or Sarawk in Malaysia or New South Wales in Australia or Ontario in Canada or Texas in the United States.

On the other hand, the ANC [African National Congress] will easily win the central election and will have all the central power. In regions they win their regional policies can be identical to their central polices. Therefore we appeal to the ANC/National Party to agree to the following changes: increase provincial powers meaningfully. Remove central control over these powers, and safeguard these changes effectively.

For the Afrikaner that is what it is all about. To enter into a new dispensation without such changes is a risk to our national life. Therefore demands for the change of the constitution is still hampering the election and it may even cause a deadlock. The concession made by the Freedom Front to register provincially for the election is a gesture of willingness towards the government/ANC. This was in reaction to a gesture by the ANC/

government adding a new principle authorising the constitutional assembly "to include in the new constitutional text provision for communities sharing a common cultural and language heritage to exercise a recognised form of internal self-determination should it be proved that there is substantial support in such a community for such self-determination."

But even this addition does not guarantee a volkstaat because it is still possible for the winning party to practically override all efforts of self-determination in the regions and even declare the whole country as one province.

The deadlock between the parties has led to the request for international mediation. It is my belief that we need the mediation of a number of objective experts acceptable for the different parties. The success of mediation has been proved in a number of crucial situations all over the world and it must be applied in our situation.

If all the obstacles are eliminated and the Afrikaners need for a volkstaat is recognised, there should be no reason why they, as members of the Freedom Alliance, would not take part in the election. When that happens there is enough reason to believe that the Freedom Alliance may become the second strongest power in South African politics.

The Afrikaners can begin immediately to plan and develop their volkstaat and other members of Freedom Alliance should be accommodated in a real federation according to their will.

ANC Issues Press Statement on Job Program
MB1103194794 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1755 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Statement by the ANC issued on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 11 Mar]

[Text]

A Realistic Programme for Real Jobs. A Press Statement from the African National Congress.

The ANC [African National Congress] election manifesto is titled: "For Jobs, Peace and Freedom". There is good reason why 'jobs' comes first. Without jobs to get the country's more than 3 million unemployed into work, there is little chance of peace or freedom for any of us—the main aim of all ANC policies.

Our election programme promises the creation of at least two-and-a-half million jobs within five years! Real jobs—not charity handouts. Real useful work—not useless "job creation" schemes for digging holes and filling them in again. Two-and-a-half million real jobs, which will provide a real base for reconstruction and a new South Africa, and for the development of its industrial, commercial and agricultural sectors. Two-and-a-half million people taken from the ranks of the desperate and the hopeless, and given the chance of dignity and human development which only real, secure, full-time useful work can provide.

This is the promise and the substance of the ANC Reconstruction and Development Plan. It is not a glib generalisation to fill the temporary demands of our election camraign. It is a long-term plan which sets the social parameters for an ANC government for years to come.

New jobs cannot be created by reckless spending on ephemeral schemes. In our programme, the twoand-a-half million jobs will be created steadily, through the unfolding over a five-year time scale of an unprecedentedly massive programme of essential public works.

These are the detailed focus points of that programme:

The building of up to 300,000 low cost homes a year, totalling at least one million in the first 5 years. A national network of primary health care centres with maternity care services and safe supervised childbirth facilities for virtually all women. Clean on-site water supplies to all households in urban and rural areas, with first priority given to schools and clinics. Electricity supply to 25 million households within five years, with first priority for schools and clinics. Tele-communications to all schools and clinics within two years, and rapid expansion of the service nation-wide thereafter. Immunisation against disease for 90 percent Of children within three years. A range of free and nation-wide health-care services for the aged, the disabled and the unemployed. The training of three thousand community development workers in 5 years, and half the nationally required district health workers within 3. Expansion of the schooling system, to give at least ten years schooling to all children, in classes of not more than 40.

Those are the numerically determined elements of the programme. There are further unquantified elements, such as the building of road and rail networks, setting up vocational and management training schemes, providing nation-wide sanitation and refuse disposal services, and so on.

These projects will create hundreds of thousands perhaps millions of new jobs, directly. The indirect spinoffs will create many more, from such auxilliary activities as manufacture and supply of materials, to transportation, training and retraining, planning, marketing and so on.

This massive plan of development and construction cannot be carried through by central and provincial governments alone. To even attempt to do so would require the creation of an equally massive bureaucracy and administrative apparatus. This is a burden our country cannot afford.

We will therefore encourage the private sector, through with special incentives, to take a large part of the financial and material burden on themselves. We will encourage all portions of the private sector to shift its focus from the area of speculation and luxury production to the new opportunities to enterprise contained in the ANC Reconstruction and Development Programme.

We will encourage citizens everywhere to take full part in the detailed planning of the programme through democratic peoples' forums, and so tailor the programme to meet detailed local needs. We will encourage citizens to volunteer to assist the paid teams which will be providing the main man and woman-power needed for the physical realisation of all the local development projects.

We will set the same criteria for the planning and for the execution of the whole programme, viz: preference to be given to small private enterprises as contractors and suppliers before the large monopolies favoured by the past NP [National Party] regime. Preference to be given to labour intensive rather than capital intensive methods of construction and service provision, to maximise the number of new jobs. Priority in the distribution of jobs and contracts to be given to the most dispossessed and deprived sectors of the population, rather than the rich favoured by the NP regime. Priority in the allocation of labour, material and finance to be given to those regions worst neglected by the NP regime. Priority in opportunity to be given to women rather than men, and to blacks before whites, to redress the inequalities left over from the NP, regime.

We will pay for this scheme without any general need to raise tax rates, partly through savings from by cutting back the NP's swollen bureaucratic apparatus; partly by cutting out the waste, the multiplication of administrative structures, and the corruption which flourished in the NP era; but mainly with new revenue created from turning thousands of unemployed into employed tax-payers, and from taxes payable by private-sector enterpreneurs on their new profits from the public works programme. This is the ANC programme for jobs. It is realistic, and it is realisable.

ANC Candidate on Land Redistribution Policy MB1303184694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1807 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Report by C Molusi]

[Text] Johannesburg March 13 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] [Orange] Free State premiership candidate Patrick Lekota has re-emphasised land redistribution as ANC policy, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports. Addressing a farm workers forum in the Senekal District on Sunday, Mr Lekota said an ANC government intended buying farms that were being put up for sale. These will in turn be resold to aspirant trained black farmers. He said these farmers would be assisted with equipment and implements. Mr Lekota said an ANC government would allow farmworkers to form and belong to labour movements. He said farmworkers would not have to work longer than 40-hours a week.

Holomisa: ANC To Reclaim All Defense Force Weapons

MB1103202894 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Text] Transkei military leader Major General Bantu Holomisa says once the ANC [African National Congress] comes into power it will see to it that all defense force weapons kept in private homes are returned to the force. He was addressing students at the University of the Western Cape today.

[Begin recording] [SABC correspondent Gary Alfonso] Gen. Holomisa told a cheering crowd of about 3,000 students that more people have died of violence in the period before the election than during the liberation struggle. He said there is an urgent need to restore law and order in the contry, something which, he said, the National Party is unable to do. He said the ANC envisages a two-phased process of disarmament.

[Holomisa, in English] We will refer the matter to the constituent assembly and it is debated there, so that all those weapons which the right-wingers are carrying all over the streets of South Africa can be returned back to the stores where they belong.

[Alfonso] Gen. Holomisa said the second phase will involve cooperation with South Africa's neighbors to prevent illegal weapons from being brought into the country. [end recording]

Forum Approves Multibillion Rand Housing Scheme

MB1503090994 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] The National Housing Forum has given the goahead for the 90 billion rands housing scheme for the poor which was announced by the government three weeks ago. The forum, which put the final touches to the plan yesterday, said a subsidy policy would be in place for individual, collective and rental ownership. The plan would also provide for a mechanism to obtain mortgage and nonmortgage-based finance.

The forum's decision to support the government's housing subsidy scheme has been welcomed by Housing Minister Louis Shill. Mr. Shill caused a stir several weeks ago by announcing the scheme while it was still under discussion.

In a separate development, the government has approved the provision of funds to begin the construction of the flood attenuation [as heard] dam outside Ladysmith. The funds, which will form part of the department of water affairs and forestry budget, will become available on the first of next month.

Gunmen Kill 6 Commuters North of Empangeni

MB1503114494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1136 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] Durban March 15 SAPA—At least six people were killed and seven injured in Enseleni township on Natal's North Coast on Tuesday [15 March] when gunmen in a bakkie [pickup truck] sprayed early morning commuters with gunfire, police said. Durban police spokesman Maj Bala Naidoo said eyewitnesses saw a red bakkie carrying armed men into the township, about 15km north of Empangeni, at about 4am.

"They opened fire at two different bus stops, killing six people and injuring seven. The victims were shot at random."

The attackers were armed with AK-47 rifles, 9mm pistols and shotguns, said Maj Naidoo. The attack comes amid heightened political tension in the volatile northern Natal region and ahead of a visit to the University of Zululand by African National Congress President Nelson Mandela, who will address supporters there on Saturday.

Umlazi Roads Barricaded To Reinforce ANC

MB1503092794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0817 GMT 15 Mar 94

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Durban March 15 SAPA—Roads were barricaded by rocks and burning tyres in Umlazi on Tuesday [15 March] to reinforce an African National Congress [ANC] march and stayaway to demand free political activity in the sprawling Durban township, police said. The Umlazi sub-region of the ANC planned a march at 10am to protest against the blockade of its rally at the King Zwelithini Stadium in the township at the weekend.

Thousands of Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] supporters occupied the stadium on Sunday, preventing ANC supporters from entering to hold a rally. At least five people died in violence apparently linked to the confrontation.

Meanwhile, Umlazi's usually busy main roads were quiet on Tuesday morning with almost no vehicle movement in the area.

District kwaZulu police commissioner Brig Alwyn Burger described the township as "tense and almost lifeless". He reported several barricades on main roads and alleged there had been intimidation. "People feel threatened and they're staying at home."

But, Umlazi's ANC Secretary Thami Ndlela denied allegations of intimidation against his organisation. "It's not the policy of the ANC," he said. He added that the overwhelming majority of Umlazi's residents supported Tuesday's protest.

"We're expecting tens of thousands at our march. They are not only ANC supporters but people like church and businessmen who are very concerned at Sunday's events." He said a memorandum would be delivered to the local magistrate, demanding free political activity and noting the IFP's alleged contravention of the Electoral Act.

"We're also calling for the rapid deployment of the national peace keeping force here to replace the kwaZulu Police and Internal Stability Unit," Mr Ndlela said.

"We believe these forces are partial and they demonstrated this by not acting to remove the people from the stadium at the weekend."

Order Restored Among Civil Servants in Ciskei MB1103154094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1443 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Report by G. Arde]

[Text] Durban March 11 SAPA—Flags were still flying in Ciskei's capital Bisho on Friday [11 March] afternoon, and the homeland government said order had been restored to the ranks of dissatisfied soldiers who protested against pension payments this week. Ciskei government spokesman Cedric Harrop allayed fears of an uprising.

"There's orchestrated political incitement to scare people stiff about their pensions, but it's totally under control and everything is back to normal," he said.

The Ciskei Civil Servants Association (Cisa), however, said there was still cause for concern about pension payments.

On Thursday and Friday soldiers from 1 Ciskei Battalion demanded a direct address from the homeland's military ruler, Brig Oupa Gqozo, who later spoke to them.

Senior civil servants in the homeland said soldiers wanted to be paid their accumulated pensions before the April elections, to secure their money before a new government took control. Mr Harrop said a new government could not interfere with the fund because it was independently managed by an international company. "It's immune from interference from this or any other government." He said the only people who could benefit from the fund were Ciskei civil servants after retirement.

Other sectors of the civil service had expressed disquiet about their pensions in the past, and the soldiers' protest was just another ripple of general discontent. Mr Harrop said: "Ciskei people, particularly civil servants, occasionally get excited when they've had a bit to drink, but they calm down after a while."

Cisa spokes:nan Mthimkulu Mashiya said although Bisho was calm, there was no telling how civil servants would react to decisions made about their pensions, especially because the fund was controlled unilaterally. He said a meeting was planned next week when civil servants would address the pension fund issue directly. The fund was administered without workers' representation and "I don't see how they can be happy with it", he added.

Rumours of an uprising were doing the rounds in Bisho on Thursday, some prompted by events in Bophuthatswana and others by South African Minister of Law and Order Hernus Kriel telling a meeting there was talk of a Ciskei coup.

Mr Harrop said as far as he could gather the soldiers were satisfied and had returned to their posts—"the flags are still flying."

South African Press Review for 15 Mar MB1503114594

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Bophuthatswana Events To Encourage ANC To Topple Buthelezi—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 11 March in its page-6 editorial maintains that "events in Bophuthatswana have put paid to the involvement of any members of the Freedom Alliance in the election other than Ciskei." The incidents in Bophuthatswana will "cast a shadow over South Africa, encouraging ANC [African National Congress] attempts to topple Chief Buthelezi and increasing the chances of White Right resistance."

Warning Against 'Bophuthatswana Treatment' for kwa-Zulu-Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 14 March in its page-6 editorial notes that the "Bophuthatswana crisis" has ended with the takeover of the Bophuthatswana administration by the South African Government and ANC-dominated Transitional Executive Council and the appointment of Mr Tiaart van der Walt. until now South African ambassador to Bophuthatswana, as administrator. THE CITIZEN hopes kwaZulu "will not be given the Bophuthatswana treatment and that Chief Buthelezi will allow the election to take place, even without IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] participation, without offering any resistance. As for the White Right, the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] has proved a paper tiger and the Conservative Party [CP] is in danger of splitting. With the CP in disarray, the Afrikaner Volksfront [National Front] is weakened, and with the IFP isolated, so is the Freedom Alliance."

THE STAR

IFP Must Allow Others To Campaign Unhindered, Vote—Having decided against participating in South Africa's first nonracial election in April, the IFP "must accept the responsibility of ensuring that it does not hinder those who do wish to vote," declares a page-16 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 15

March. The IFP may deny that it intends to use "undemocratic methods to discourage those wishing to cast ballots" but "events on the ground look ominous. On Sunday at least five people were killed in Umlazi, near Durban, after armed IFP supporters occupied a stadium where the ANC was due to hold a rally, forcing the meeting to be held elsewhere." "The IFP leadership is facing a test—and so is the Transitional Executive Council, fresh from its admirably decisive performance in Bophuthatswana."

BUSINESS DAY

Divisions in IFP Over Election Participation-Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 15 March in a page-10 editorial sees "divisions" in the IFP with the organization saying it will not participate in the elections, and others, like central committee member Ben Ngubane, saying "the election is still a definite option." BUSINESS DAY believes there is "a slender chance of participation despite the apparent firming of deadlines. Barring this, Inkatha has only one card: the king." If the IFP refuses to contest the polls, Mandela "can afford to tone down the rhetoric and simply point to the fallacy of Buthelezi's claims. But he has still to convince Zulus generally that the future of the monarch and traditional chiefs is safe with an ANC government, and that rank and file public servants need have no fears of being dismissed or victimised." "If the ANC wins a handsome share of the Natal vote, and finds the mediation tiresome, it will be sorely tempted to dismiss Inkatha as irrelevant, and pull out. Buthelezi will then be consigned to the political wilderness, and there will be no coming back."

Call for Prosecution of Killers of AWB Members—A second editorial on the same page refers to the execution of two AWB men in Bophuthatswana, saying the ANC's Popo Molefe "may be unmoved by the killing members of a group of armed, racist invaders, some whom had reportedly been shooting black civilians. He may feel the AWB men got what they deserved, but to move from there to the argument that nothing should be done about cold-blooded murder is a slippery and dangerous path." "Rights are universal and freedoms indivisible," and we cannot "believe it is wrong to shoot Chris Hani but not Alwyn Wolfaardt. The last thing the ANC should be encouraging is the belief that only crimes of which it disapproves will be prosecuted, or that some people can take the law into their own hands."

SOWETAN

Need To Woo Azapo Into Election Process—"While we will be watching with trepidation the Inkatha Freedom Party's non-involvement in the election, we need to bite the bullet and get on with it," states a page-8 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 15 March. However, it makes SOWETAN "uncomfortable" that "Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] has been ignored despite the fact they are the only party to stick to their guns. If the IFP is wooed back into the process every attempt should be made to get Azapo back."

Angola

Dos Santos Fires Ministers, Reshuffles Cabinet

MB1403195894 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos today relieved Territorial Administration Minister Paulo Kassoma and Assistance and Social Reintegration Minister Norberto dos Santos. The president of the Republic also relieved General Afonso Lopes Garcia (Leve) from the post of deputy chief of the General Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces responsible for logistics.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos today reshuffled the cabinet in line with recommendations made by Prime Minister Marcolino Moco. The following officials have been relieved of their posts: Justino Fernandes as minister of youth and sports; Albino Malungo as deputy minister of assistance and social reintegration; Alvaro Arnaldo Craveiro as deputy finance minister; Jose da Rocha Sardinha de Castro as deputy youth and sports minister; Rui Oscar de Carvalho as governor of Luanda Province; and Jose Anibal Lopes Rocha as governor of Uige Province.

Alvaro Craveiro has been appointed minister of finance, Jose Anibal Lopes Rocha minister of territorial administration, Albino Malungo minister of assistance and social reintegration, and Jose da Rocha Sardinha de Castro minister of youth and sports.

Justino Fernandes has been appointed governor of Luanda Province, and Alberto Bento Ribeiro ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe. Antonio Franca Ndalu has been appointed special adviser to the president of the Republic.

Further on Reshuffling

LD1403223294 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] In Angola, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is continuing to change ministers. The minister of youth and sports was replaced today, the new post holder is Jose de Castro, formerly the governor of Uige [Province]. The president sacked the finance minister on Friday [11 March]. It has also been reported that General Antonio dos Santos Franca Ndalu [nom de guerre] has been appointed a special aide to the president. Franca Ndalu is considered a moderate figure within the MPLA [Movement for the Popular Liberation of Angola]. At one stage, he was the head of the government delegation at the CCPM [Joint Political-Military Commission] before the resumption of war with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

Government Reportedly Offers Portfolios to UNITA

MB1403200994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Report by correspondent Pedro Manuel in Lusaka]

[Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] delegation to the Lusaka peace talks is still in Huambo for instructions. It is scheduled to return to Lusaka tomorrow.

Rumors in Lusaka speak of a government document detailing the portfolios to be given to UNITA—namely, the Provinces of Uige, Lunda Sul, and Cuando Cubango, and ambassadorial posts in Cape Verde, Algeria, Mexico, and UNESCO. At the central level, the rumors say UNITA would be given the portfolios of tourism and hotel industry, and construction materials. There are other portfolios, but unfortunately we have no details about them.

UNITA wishes to have the portfolios of territorial administration and geology and mines. It also wants its deputy ministers in the defense, information, and other ministries. UNITA is scheduled to comment on the government offer tomorrow, following Blondin Beye's meeting with Jonas Savimbi.

It has been report that the UN Security Council has adjourned its meeting on Angola for 16 March, pending UNITA's response to the government offer. A UN Angola Verification Mission aircraft will fly to Huambo tomorrow to fetch UNITA's Eugenio Manuvakola, Jorge Valentim, and Isaias Samakuva and bring them to Lusaka. They have been in Huambo since 12 March receiving instructions from Jonas Savimbi.

Heavy Shelling Forces Aid Groups To Leave Menongue

MB1503111294 London BBC World Service in English 0627 GMT 15 Mar 94

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] Relief organizations in Angola have withdrawn from the southeastern city of Menongue after heavy shelling around the airport. The organizations, which include Care International and Medecins Sans Frontieres [Doctors Without Borders], have evacuated 14 of their workers. Menongue, which is government-controlled, has been under siege by the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels for more than one year. They control most of the surrounding countryside. The attacks were largely ineffective, but intensified at the end of last week.

Mozambique

Chissano Addresses Demobilized Troops

MB1103082094 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1830 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Speech by President Joaquim Chissano at ceremony in Massinga troop assembly area, in southern Inhambane Province, on 10 March—recorded]

[Excerpts] Mozambique Armed Forces/Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FAM/FPLM] soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers: we are here in Massinga today, 10 March, to formally begin the troop demobilization process in accordance with the stipulations of the General Peace Accord which was signed in Rome between the government of the Republic of Mozambique and the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo]. In terms of the General Peace Accord, the process for the creation of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces [FADM] will occur simultaneously with the assembly and integration into civilian life of FAM/FPLM soldiers who are progressively demobilized as a result of the implementation of the cease-fire accord. The General Peace Accord also states that all units must be demobilized by the time FADM is fully staffed.

Even though the troop confinement process is not over yet and the formation of the FADM forces has met with some problems, it is important that troop demobilization begins, principally for the following reasons:

- The troop confinement process was conceived of as a stage in the transition to civilian life or to the FADM forces. That stage should not have lasted longer than one month. Unfortunately, you have had to stay longer than that at this assembly area due to unforeseen reasons;
- Most of the confined soldiers are to be demobilized;
 There is the impossible product to speed up the imple.
- There is the imperative need to speed up the implementation of the General Peace Accord by removing difficulties and making it easier for its goals to be achieved:
- Most troop assembly areas are more than 100 percent full, so it is imperative to demobilize soldiers so that space can be opened for other soldiers to be confined;
- Basic organizational and financial conditions are already in place for demobilization to begin.

The Mozambican Government has decided to begin demobilizing its forces for all these reasons, and in the spirit which guided the signing of the General Peace Accord. We can clarify at this stage that this is no unilateral demobilization. Instead, it is a matter of the government taking the first step in a simultaneous demobilization process that must be complied with by both sides. In view of that, the government, Renamo, and the UN Operations in Mozambique must guarantee that the process occurs simultaneously for both sides. Demobilization is an import stage in the process for strengthening peace in this country. It is an important stage in redirecting our country's human, material, and financial

resources so they can be used to rebuild the nation, to improve the people's living standards, and to help develop our country's social and economic sectors.

FAM/FPLM soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers: those of you who are leaving today to rejoin your families, whether it be in urban or rural areas, are leaving their uniforms and weapons today to rejoin civilian life. We have come here on behalf of the Mozambican State and the Mozambican people, united from Rovuma River to Maputo River, to pay the nation's homage to its beloved sons. [passage omitted]

The sodliers who are getting demobilized today have fought for peace. The principal goal of demobilization is to solidify peace by neutralizing the reasons for war. So, demobilization cannot and should not be a unilateral move, or it may become the reason for new conflicts. A simultaneous demobilization process means that there are neither victors nor vanquished. The Mozambican people are the sole winners in that they gain much desired peace.

To you, the heroes, we do not hesitate to pay due homage for the heroism you have shown in your struggle to defend freedom and our fatherland's independence. We are proud to pay you homage today. It is with pride that you must now return to your homes in the country's cities and rural areas, because you have accomplished your mission. You must now work to help solidify peace and normalize the lives of all our people, including your own lives. You will know how to behave in line with the spirit of reconciliation, freedom, dignity, and justice. [passage omitted]

While you prepare for your new professions, you will continue getting financial support for two years, the first six months of which will be paid directly by the state. The other 18 months will be the result of generous contributions and support by the international community, which has decided to listen to the Mozambican Government's call for increased efforts in that direction. We are well aware of the fact that you have many needs but only very limited financial resources, but that is all the government and the international community can make available. We do not have the means to satify our desire to give you more.

In addition to those salaries, upon arrival in the area where he wants to settle for good, each demobilized soldier will receive complementary support in terms of seeds, agricultural tools, and other small production tools that will help them resume productive work. That means that we need to work very hard so that we can guarantee our own upkeep and create surpluses that will help stabilize and raise our standards of living. Only work can help us improve. Only disciplined work can release us from famine, poverty, and misery. [passage omitted]

The government is well aware of the fact that the most important consideration, in all this, is the creation of conditions that will guarantee work for each citizen. However, it is up to us and our efforts alone to create really stable jobs. We have to continue working very hard. [passage omitted]

Some of you have expressed a desire to be paid the first six months in full upon demobilization. Though the government views with sympathy the reasons for your concern, it is nonetheless important that you do not arrive in your homes empty-handed. The government will pay promptly the first three months when you get demobilized. You will receive the remainder in your districts. Conditions are being created to ensure that everyone will receive his dues, even in areas where there are no banks or administrative posts. [passage omitted]

We want you to be an important factor in the development of the national economy and in the reconstruction of the fatherland for whose freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity you fought so hard and gave so much of your youth. The people and the government expect of you that you will be the safekeepers of peace, freedom, and democracy wherever you may be. [passage omitted]

Long live the FAM/FPLM forces!

Long live the Mozambican people, united from Rovuma River to Maputo River!

Long live the Republic of Mozambique!

Long live national unity!

Long live hard work!

Long live democracy!

Long live peace!

President Chissano Returns From Zimbabwe Visit MB1403205694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano said in Maputo today that he was informed by Robert Mugabe, his Zimbabwean counterpart, about some issues on regional situation, particularly those related to [word indistinct] of the Frontline States. Referring to those issues, Chissano noted the situation in South Africa, Lesotho, and in Zimbabwe itself. He also exchanged views on the situation in [passage indistinct].

Discusses Relations

MB1503072594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0400 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] Speaking to newsmen shortly after his return from the Zimbabwean capital, President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano described as pure speculation reports that relations between Mozambique and Zimbabwe had cooled down recently. The Mozambican head of state had gone to Harare on 13 March on a two-day visit.

International news agencies and radio stations had speculated last week that relations between Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and Joaquim Chissano, his Mozambican counterpart, had deteriorated over the last few months.

The two heads of state met in Harare to discuss issues pertaining to the situation in southern Africa in general and in the Frontline countries in particular. President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano noted that the situation in Lesotho, South Africa, Angola and Zimbabwe itself had been viewed with particular interest.

Finance Minister: High Taxes To Be Reduced MB1403113094 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Finance Minister Dr. Eneias Comiche has admitted that taxes in force until now have been quite high and he added that they were to be reduced for that very reason.

Speaking at a meeting with Mozambican and foreign businessmen in the Mozambican capital, Finance Minister Comiche said such reductions had been introduced in the wake of a profound study on the prevailing fiscal taxes. Those reduction affect primarily the main taxes, notably the Industrial Contribution Tax, the Complementary Tax, and the Income Tax.

Report on Finance Minister's Meeting MB1403202194 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese 14 Mar 94 p 1, 2

[Report by Carlos Cardoso]

[Text] This will not be the year that the state makes substantial savings in areas like the armed forces.

This was disclosed by Finance Minister Dr. Eneias Comiche at a meeting with Maputo businessmen and senior Ministry of Finance officials on 11 March.

Comiche said: "There are initial high costs, and that does not apply only" to the formation of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, adding that "such costs have not yet been estimated"—salaries, restoration of barracks, demobilization, and so on.

Yet another expenditure that has come as a surprise: elections—\$79 million. The international community will only contribute 60 percent. The remainder will have to come from the State General Budget.

Initially the government had put Mozambique's costs for the elections at between \$3 and \$4 million.

Comiche's meeting, which ended up being unusually informative, began with the minister outlining the legal fiscal framework of investment and complaining that "it is with a certain regret that so far we have seen no Mozambican entrepreneur with investment plans" for duty free industrial areas already approved by the government (decree 18/93).

As expected, the minister dealt with taxes.

Ibrahimo Ibrahimo, for many years a senior Ministry of Finance official and currently with an auditors firm, dotted the i's by recalling that on average, the fiscal evasion for the complementary tax in 1978/79 was 80 percent. He added: "I do not believe it has gone down."

Ibrahimo described December's fiscal review as an "important step," but added: "As for indirect taxation, those were insufficient measures."

The entrepreneurs were not as generous in their comments, but were far from calling things by their own names.

Mozambique Commercial Association President Mario Ussene said the meeting seems to have consolidated the entrepreneurs' standing.

In private, they say the changes introduced in the fiscal system were meaningless, but to the minister they said they were a "timid step" in the "right direction."

On the question of investment, Ibrahimo stressed that now it takes less time to get projects approved, adding that it continues to take a long time to implement them.

Ibrahimo also raised the delicate question of fines.

"There is a general perception that there is no strict controlling policy. There are businessmen who are visited two, three, or four times by tax inspectors, while others are not checked at all."

At this stage, Comiche said that in Beira recently, businessmen had complained to him about "persecution" by the revenue department.

"I tried to point out that it is not a question of persecution. What happens is that they are not used to tax inspectors whom they cannot bribe."

He added that he would "reward" the tax inspectors in question. He said categorically: "I will not give in to any pressure."

George Tsilakhis, proprietor of the Agricultural Tobacco Company, SAT, also attended the meeting. SAT is one of the two companies that still manufactures cigarettes, but which could close down their operations if their products continue to cost as much as imported cigarettes in view of heavy taxation. Imported cigarettes are exempted from tax.

Tsilakhis once again reiterated the tobacco companies' call to the government: to either substantially lower the taxes applicable to Mozambican cigarettes or to scrupulously apply the relevant customs duties on cigarettes imported from South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.

Comiche acknowledged that there is "a great deal of tobacco that enters the country, but does not pay tax." He added: "Unfortunately, it is not only tobacco. It is everything." He pointed out: "We ought to protect the

Mozambican industry by controlling borders more effectively." He promised: "We must charge a levy on cigarettes that enter the country without paying duties. We are studying ways of doing it."

Is that a vain promise?

Commenting on the minister's promise, a reliable source told MEDIAFAX that Comiche has succeeded in controlling imported tobacco, but has done nothing to protect the local industry from sliding down.

MEDIAFAX attended the meeting and took the opportunity to ask a few questions of the minister:

Businessmen throughout the country say government should cut the budget deficit by reducing public expenditure instead of imposing more taxes. What ministries does he think should be shut down for being irrelevant?

Comiche said the government is "looking into" the matter to see which state agencies should be shut down.

"It is only a question of opportunity before a decision can be made."

The minister said the assets and services account is "extremely tight," but acknowledged that the state is not "being as austere as one would like it to be."

He also agreed that the informal sector should also pay taxes. Comiche reiterated the government's position that the collection of taxes from the informal sector should be done by the town councils' police force.

MEDIAFAX: To a certain extent the legal business sector evades taxes, but they ...e not compensated for what they pay. The state is also at fault. For many parents, government schools are now more expensive than private ones, hospitals charge two different fees, and the same applies to passports. As for security, enterprises and citizens need to hire the services of private companies, paying thousands of contos per month.

Comiche acknowledged that the question of different prices is widespread, but noted that the situation cannot be corrected through tax evasion.

Turning to the question of private security companies, the minister said he did not know whether in a way they encouraged crime to secure contracts.

MEDIAFAX: Who are the informal businessmen supplying the black market and ending up not paying taxes?

Comiche "passed the buck" to Trade Minister Daniel Gabriel who was also present. Gabriel elaborated on informal trade, but did not give names or clues.

MEDIAFAX: Mozambican and foreign investors see the investment code as an improvement on the previous

legislation. But would it be legitimate to put Mozambican entrepreneurs in dire straits on an equal footing with foreign entrepreneurs who have capital readily available?

Comiche said he was surprised with the question because "Mozambican entrepreneurs had asked for equal treatment" when the issue was raised at the 1992 seminar.

The minister said "local savings is negative. We need to look for foreign savings."

He stressed that "the law forces foreigners to establish partnerships with Mozambicans."

Regardless, Comiche noted that 95 percent of small and medium state enterprises have been privatized by Mozambican businessmen.

The meeting also discussed customs and excise.

Manuel Alaje, deputy national customs and excise director, told the meeting that "we have been accused of doing nothing, but when we want to adhere to the law, the importers threaten us."

He added that the state cannot control "a 6,000-km border."

As an example of the most common form of tax evasion, he said "yesterday we detected an underinvoicing case involving 600,000 contos."

In its "futile attempt" to adhere to the law, he said customs and excise established in December 1993 an office for the verification of imported merchandise.

He said by 9 March customs and excise had managed to recover 5 million contos that would have been otherwise lost.

Based on what Mozambican tobacco companies estimate, that figure is only 5 percent of what the state revenue should collect in customs duties on imported tobacco.

Alaje said customs departments have been "replacing personnel" in an attempt to reduce the amount of money being pocketed by their functionaries, and to increase state revenue.

"Even yesterday all the staff members at Namaacha were replaced without anyone noticing it."

"We are doing what is humanely possible."

He added that things ought to be done very carefully due to "death threats."

The minister told the meeting that fiscal revenue amounts to 26 percent of the gross domestic product, a ratio [preceding word in English] that Comiche regards as "higher" that in underdeveloped countries like Mozambique.

At the start of the meeting Comiche said something that is worth keeping on the record: "A reduction in taxes means less revenue for the state."

Over the past few years, entrepreneurs and economists have stated otherwise: substantially lower taxes and a wider collecting system covering the informal sector would end up increasing state revenue.

Would it be possible for the government to try this option?

By the way, when will the government reveal the budget so that everyone knows how each metical is spent?

P.S. Once again, an IMF team was in Maputo in a visit shrouded in utmost secrecy. It did not meet with the World Bank or the donors.

MEDIAFAX learned that the visit had something to do with the question of counterpart funds.

We have also learned that the IMF already completed or is about to complete a study on taxation.

Dhlakama Asks Government To Help Fund Political Parties

MB1203184694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 12 Mar 94

[Text] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama has called on the government to make available funds for the operation of the unarmed political parties. Dhlakama was reacting to the position of the political parties that they will boycott the first free and democratic elections in the country, scheduled for next October, if the Mozambican Government does not make available money.

Afonso Dhlakama also told Radio Mozambique that he will preside over his troops' demobilization ceremony at the Neves Assembly Area in Inhambane Province on 18 March. The Renamo leader said this shortly before his departure for Renamo's headquarters in Maringue.

Renamo Official: Frelimo Training Men in Tanzania

MB1403065994 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0400 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] Gilberto Catema, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] political delegate for Cabo Delgado Province, has reiterated accusations that the government is providing military training to some 800 men in the Republic of Tanzania. Catema said the Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo, party is giving military training to men to fight Renamo, should the latter win the elections scheduled to be held in October of this year.

The Renamo political delegate for Cabo Delgado Province also said that some Frelimo Party officials had gone to military training centers in Tanzania last month.

Renamo Reportedly Keeping 2 Arms Depots

MB1403113194 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguesc 1030 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo, is keeping two arms depots in the former base of Maringue, in northern Zambezia [as heard] Province. A government source in Namarroi told Radio Mozambique that war materiel is being watched by two soldiers. That source also said that a group of 1,000 armed men belonging to the group that used to be led by [former Mozambican National Union leader] Gimo Phiri have been seeing moving in the vicinity of Lugela and Namarroi Districts.

Diplomats Concerned Over Recent Army Appointment

MB1203161694 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese 6 Mar 94 p 5

[Unattributed article]

[Excerpts] On 7 March it will be a month since Lieutenant General Lagos Lidimo was promoted to his present rank, following his appointment to the Supreme Council of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces (FADM). [passage omitted]

Reacting to the appointment and subsequent promotion of the senior government army officer to the FADM Supreme Council, diplomatic sources in Maputo expressed regret at the choice, linking Lidimo to Mozambique's shadowy war period when he was chief of Military Counterintelligence (JIM). Other diplomats went as far as to approach FAM/FPLM [Mozambique Armed Forces/Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] officialdom to express their annoyance at Lidimo's appointment. Moreover, they noted issues relating to the period before independence when Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] guerrillas clashed with Portuguese colonial troops in Mozambique, particularly in Cabo Delgado where Lidimo was born and operated.

Contacted by DOMINGO, senior government army officers categorically rejected those arguments, emphasizing that that amounted to interference in the country's domestic affairs. They based their views on the fact that Lagos Lidimo played a leading role in the defeat of Portuguese colonialism and in?the dismantling of a [U.S.] CIA network in Mozambique. They noted that possible resentment harbored by certain circles after those two events could have prompted the diplomats' attitude. They also mentioned the role played by Mateus Ngonhamo in the war that ended in 1992, during which

he operated in central and southern Mozambique, where most of the bloodiest Renamo-sponsored massacres were reported. They said as the country moves toward national reconciliation and democratization, the international community ought to assist Mozambicans in reconstructing their lives in peace instead of opening old wounds.

Soldiers Confined in Assembly Areas

MB1403171394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] A total of 718 Mozambique National Resistance and 371 government soldiers presented themselves in the various assembly areas between 11 and 13 March. About 47,500 soldiers from both sides are confined now.

Zimbabwe

Mozambique's President Begins Two-Day Visit

MB1303164694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano has begun a two-day visit to Zimbabwe. The aim of the visit is to [words indistinct] cooperation between the two countries, after the establishment of peace in Mozambique. A source from the presidential delegation told Radio Mozambique in Harare that Chissano has already been received by his counterpart Robert Mugabe, and this afternoon the two statesmen are expected to hold closed- door talks. The source also said that Chissano will hold a meeting with the Mozambican community living in Zimbabwe [words indistinct], the two delegations will discuss cooperation in the field of trade and transport and communications.

Meets With Counterpart

MB1403171894 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1100 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The presidents of Mozambique and Zimbabwe say African leaders should be hospitable towards the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] leader, Mr. Afonso Dhlakama, to dissuade him from going back to war. Mr. Dhlakama has been shunned by many regional leaders since the peace pact in 1992 ended the 16-year-old civil war between Renamo and the Mozambican government. A report from Harare quotes a Mozambican official as saying that President Robert Mugabe and President Joaquim Chissano have appealed to African leaders to put aside their hostility towards Mr. Dhlakama to promote p ace in southern Africa.

Benin

Reward Offered for Information on Stolen Arms

AB1403183394 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French 1930 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Excerpts] Starting tomorrow, a reward awaits any Beninese who provides information that could help retrieve the arms and ammunition stolen from the Ouidah Military Camp. This was disclosed this morning by Minister of Defense Desire Vieyra. He observed that it was time to curb the growing insecurity threatening the country.

[Begin recording] [Vieyra] [Words indistinct] especially when one holds the defense portfolio. What I can say right away—with the permission of the head of state—is that exceptional ailments call for exceptional remedies. The government is prepared to handsomely reward anyone who helps it to uncover where these arms and ammunition are being hidden. A 2.5-million-CFA-franc award is promised to any person who helps us retrieve these arms and ammunition. This is not an undemocratic deviation or aberration. It is done in countries all over the world. So we are not inventing something or doing anything abnormal. Where the safety of our peaceloving citizenry is threatened, the government must do all it can to reassure them. This is exactly what we mean to do now.

[Unidentified correspondent] Which department should Beninese wishing to offer information contact?

[Vieyra] The Ministry of Interior. On 14 March, a special telephone number will be provided at the Ministry of Interior which people can use to communicate information. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Beninese may also want to be sure that their identities are kept secret.

[Vieyra] Their anonymity is fully guaranteed. Yes, fully guaranteed. They run no risk at all. [passage omitted] [end recording]

France will also be closely involved in handling the security situation in Benin. Hence, a French delegation is due to arrive in Cotonou next week.

Workers End Strike, Resume Work 10 Mar AB1103161094 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French 1930 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Italicized passages recorded]

[Text] After a 72-hour strike by public service, parastatal, and private sector employees, Beninese workers resumed work this morning. Paul Ayemona, spokesman of the Collective of Independent Labor Unions and the Interunions Crisis Committee takes stock of the three-day strike:

[Ayemona] The Collective of Independent Labor Unions has established three facts: First, that despite the untrue statements liberally made by the government, the Beninese workers widely followed the strike call. Second, the government does not seem willing yet to list n to workers or it is simply reluctant to admit the sufferings of the people. Third, Beninese workers are determined to use all legal and peaceful means at their disposal to increase their purchasing power.

Should the government maintain its stand, the trade unions will feel obliged to adopt new measures. Here are more details with Mr. Ayemona speaking to a Benin radio reporter:

[Ayemona] We have organized days of mobilization and information for workers and the people. As early as next week, that is as early as 16 March, the strike movement will resume with the possibility of negotiations. The issue at stake is the purchasing power of workers.

[Unidentified correspondent] It seems now that the government is willing to enter into negotiations with you. What about that?

[Ayemona] That is what the government thinks. Now, there is pressure from the workers because we believe that the government is not the only decisionmaking organ. We want to help it to make a decision as partners and friends.

On the government's side, serenity prevails despite the strike call. There is a status quo. Timothee Adanlin, minister of civil service and administrative reform, has the details:

[Adanlin] The government is observing the same attitude. It means we are available for discussions with workers and their representatives on the measures to be taken to maintain the most peaceful social atmosphere.

[Correspondent] Does that mean that you are calling on workers for more negotiations?

[Adanlin] We can go back to the negotiation table anytime. I am currently waiting for the workers to make contact and to tell us their position. I refer to position because I do not know what they are planning to do now. For our part, we are making every effort to prevent a strike. We believe there is no need for ø strike before we discuss the issues at stake and reach satisfactory solutions for all workers.

Asked on how the government would react to an indefinite strike, the labor minister said:

[Adanlin] I do not believe there will be an indefinite strike. What did the government do to trigger the last strike? The government just said that the right to go on strike is a right that should be enjoyed and used within the limits imposed by the law. What the law says is that the

right to go on strike should not be used to cause disturbances and to disrupt public order. I would like to express my personal satisfaction with the fact that trade unionists kept the promise made to the head of state. They promised to make every effort to prevent public disturbances during their strike and true to their word, public order was not disrupted. This is indeed satisfying.

New Political Party Inaugurated in Porto-Novo

AB1303215094 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French 1930 GMT 12 Mar 94

[Fxcerpt] A new party has appeared on the Beninese political scene. The Action and Progress [Generation Action Progres] party was inaugurated at the International House in Porto-Novo this morning. In his welcome address, the party chairman, lawyer Yves Edgar Monou, took stock of the country's 33 years of independence which were marked by failure and success as well as unrest and peace, and this raises questions and requires sober reflection. According to Monou, Beninese should stop destroying their own genius and strive for the consolidation of the current democratic process which they invented in Africa. The whole Beninese people must change their mentality and behavior. Let us listen to Lawyer Monou:

[Begin recording] We must change our mentality and make a new national and patriotic interest one of our major concerns. From now on, our daily concern should be how to come together as an individual and advance, always advance, relentlessly and (?straight) on the path of progress. We should also strive to make our youth the true spearhead of our country. In short, we should draw lessons from past mistakes and resolutely turn to the future and prove the relevance of the thought of Oscar Wilde, an English author of the last century, who said that youth is the only valuable asset. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Ghana

Rawlings, Nigeria's Kingibe Discuss Bakassi Issue

AB1503095294 Accord Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in Paglish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The president, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, today held talks with the Nigerian foreign minister, Babagana Kingibe, at the Castle, Osu. They discussed Nigeria's border conflict with Cameroon, the Liberian peace process, and the devaluation of the CFA franc, and the economic and social consequences for the West African subregion.

At a news conference after the talks, Babagana Kingibe said the desire of the Nigerian Government is to seek accommodation and reconciliation and to resolve the conflict with Cameroon through dialogue. He said as part of efforts to find a peaceful solution to the dispute,

the two countries have been invited to Cairo, Egypt, on Wednesday [16 March] by the OAU Conflict Resolution Committee. Babagana Kingibe said Nigeria will cooperate fully with the committee to see to a peaceful resolution of the dispute. On Liberia, he expressed confidence that things will go well with the peace process this time because indications are that all the factions are eager to see peace prevail in the country and will therefore adhere to the Cotonou accord.

The deputy minister designate for foreign affairs, Dr. Mohamed ibn Chambas, said the role of France in the dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon is being viewed with concern by Ghana. He said the French, by their action, are meddling in the affairs of two sister African countries. They should, therefore, leave the problems to Africans to solve.

Liberia

Transitional Council Dissolves 3 Factions AB1403193194 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Mar 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Liberia's one-week-old Transitional Council has got down to business today with a bid to seize the political initiative, even though some important differences between the three main factions still have to be settled. A new cabinet was supposed to take office today, with members drawn from the interim government, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], and ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], just like the council itself, and although that has been delayed, the council has taken important decisions over the currency and over the control of Liberia's natural resources. Miss Nii Nartey Alison reports in this telex from Monrovia:

The Transitional Council declared both the old and the new \$5 notes legal tender throughout Liberia. Until today's proclamation, the old bank note known as the J.J.—because it bears the picture of Liberia's first president, J.J. Roberts—had been primarily used in areas controlled by Charles Taylor's NPFL. The new note, the Liberty, has on its face the seal of the Republic of Liberia and had been the legal tender in areas controlled by the former interim government of Amos Sawyer.

Prior to the civil war, the J.J. was the medium of exchange, but it was declared illegal by Sawyer's government when it was discovered that most bank notes in the country had been looted. The move, however, was resisted by Charles Taylor. He declared the Liberty illegal in his enclave.

The council also declared that the National Transitional Government had full authority over the country's mineral resources and that only people designated by the state council could engage in the export of minerals. This

proclamation is clearly designed to stop the NPFL and ULIMO from exploiting the natural resources within areas they occupy.

Meanwhile, the induction of cabinet ministers is due to be held today, but it appears that the controversial posts of ministers of foreign affairs, defense, justice, and finance have not yet been resolved. Appointees of the NPFL yesterday failed to show up at a breakfast time confirmation hearing. Instead, they flew to Gbarnga by helicopter for consultations.

Later in the cast, BBC World Service in English adds the following: "The new transitional council in Liberia has dissolved the three armed factions involved in the fouryear civil war and the previous interim government. Although all five council members signed the decree, the two ULIMO members immediately issued a press statement saying it was a violation of last year's peace agreement. They said it was the institutions set up by the factions that were meant to be dissolved, not the factions themselves. The council, which was sworn in last week to guide the country to free elections, also declared all natural resources under its authority. A BBC correspondent in Monrovia said the clause is clearly designed to stop the former factions from extracting taxes and export duties for themselves. The council was expected to install its cabinet ministers today."]

Gordon-Somers Discusses NPFL Disarmament, ULIMO

AB1403113094 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 13 Mar 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Although significant steps towards peace and democratic elections in September were taken in Liberia this week, serious snags remain, especially in a demobilization of fighters of the three parties to the Cotonou agreement, which has been sluggish. Initially, only fighters of the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] began to hand in weapons. Yesterday NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] fighters began disarming. But ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] has faced problems. It has been racked by internal splits, and over the weekend there were reports that rival ULIMO factions had been fighting. Well, the UN special representative to Liberia, Trevor Gordon-Somers, has been traveling around the different parts of Liberia. On the line to Monrovia, Josephine Hazely asked him what news he had of inter-ULIMO fighting.

[Begin recording] [Gordon-Somers] In fact, as far as I know there was none yesterday and the day before. There was fighting in ULIMO going back a week ago in Tubmanburg, but since Tubmanburg calmed down I have had no evidence or no information that there has been fighting anywhere else among ULIMO.

[Hazely] In that right, because we are getting reports that there has been fighting in the Todi center itself? [Gordon-Somers] Well, I visited the Bong Mines, the Todi Mission, Kakata, I think on Thursday [10 March] and we talked with the fighters, we saw them massed in their center, and what they told us was that they were waiting for clear instructions from their high command. Now, Mr. Alhaji Koromah, in fact, sent written instructions, as I understand it, to the field commander and then sent in one of his commanders out to him, and as has been reported to me they started disarming this morning and I think that it is a good sign that they have started their disarmament today.

[Hazely] So, as far as you can gather, the faction fighting within ULIMO is more or less (?finished now).

[Gordon-Somers] I would like to believe that but, I mean, one must not oversimplify these matters. Notwithstanding the reconciliation efforts, it doesn't necessarily heal in one day. But I believe that it is a very positive sign and I think that the best indication that there is calm in ULIMO headquarters and in the various ULIMO barracks is that they have started disarming. At least it means that fighters themselves have a sense of confidence that they are not going to be attacked by one faction or the other.

[Hazely] As has been reported, ULIMO commander Roosevelt Johnson has not acknowledged Alhaji Koromah as the leader of ULIMO.

[Gordon-Somers] That is correct.

[Hazely] Okay, let's talk about Charles Taylor's NPFL now. You, I understand went to watch some of them disarm yesterday. What did you see?

[Gordon-Somers] That has taken place in NPFL territory. This is between Konola and Sir George Philip Mission or something of the sort. Well we... [pauses] there were some.. [pauses] I—the figures may vary but—I suspect it was about 400 NPFL fighters who were assembled with their weapons and we processed them through yesterday evening between three o'clock and I think they must have finished at about six or seven because I left before they were completed.

[Hazely] What sort of weapons did they hand in?

[Gordon-Somers] They were handing in weapons like some types of machine guns or AK's or what was it, and there were some mortars.

[Hazely] What was the mood of the fighters from what you could judge? Were they happy to hand in their weapons or did they do this grudgingly?

[Gordon-Somers] No, they were extremely happy. They were singing songs and dancing around, and their commanders who were with them were cheering them on and dancing with them. It was a very happy occasion, and some of them to whom we spoke indicated their readiness, their willingness, they want to go back to school, they want to go and do something else. It was a very happy occasion. [end recording]

[London BBC World Service in English at 0600 GMT on 14 March adds that "Fighters of one of Liberia's largest armed factions have begun to surrender their arms to the African peacekeeping force. They were ordered to do so yesterday by the National Patriotic Front leader, Charles Taylor, despite a political dispute over the composition of a new transitional government and continued factional fighting clashes. Fighting has continued among members of the ULIMO faction around the town of Todi, which has been designated a disarmament site."]

Mali

Government, Workers Reach Agreement on Pay Raise

AB1103160794 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 0700 GMT 11 Mar 94

[Excerpts] On 24 and 28 February, and on 4 and 7 March, the government and the National Union of Malian Workers [UNTM] held negotiations on the memorandum submitted by the union on 18 February. The meeting took place in the conference hall of the Ministry of Employment, Civil Service, and Labor. The government was represented by Employment Minister Mohamed Ag Erlaf and Finance and Trade Minister Soumaila Cisse, while the delegation of the UNTM's National Executive Bureau was led by Secretary General (Isse Doghoe), who was accompanied by an executive member. Mamadou Diallo has the details:

[Diallo] Following the deliberations, the two sides signed the following 13-point agreement:

- 1. All civil servants who were promoted from 1991 to 93 will receive compensation, in the form of a bonus equivalent to a step increase on the new wage scale, effective 1 January 1995.
- 2. The transfer to the new pay scale, on the basis of the 1990 wage index, will be effective on 1 April 1994.
- 3. Compensation for all arrears owed workers from (?1988) to 1990 will be paid on the basis of the current salaries to the affected workers, in the form of one month of salary in 1994 and an additional one and a half months of salary in 1995. The money owed pensioners and families of deceased civil servants will be paid in a lump sum.
- 4. Effective 1 April 1994, the salary index will be increased by 10 percent.
- 5. The UNTM has explicitly requested that the 5-percent pay raise slated for 1995 be granted in 1994. The government is considering the raise for 1 October 1994, following the meeting on the structural adjustment program slated for June of this year. [passage omitted on points 6 to 11 outlining agreement on study of staff housing, financing of shopping center for employees, compiling of report on internal finances, control of drug

prices, supervised training for workers leaving due to retrenchment or retirement, and assumption of internal debts]

- 12. Both sides also agreed to sponsor a tripartite meeting to be attended by the government, the UNTM, and the employers' association, in order to coordinate the amount of family allowances and the rate of increase in the interoccupational guaranteed minimum wage.
- 13. The present draft agreement covers and supersedes the list of grievances submitted by the UNTM on 18 February 1994.

Public Administration Unions Begin 48-Hour Strike

AB1503121394 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 0700 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] The 48-hour strike called by the union committees of public administration establishments starts today and is, in principle, expected to end tomorrow. Consequently, a minimum work schedule will be observed in the affected services.

Cabinet Makes Appointments Within Armed Forces

AB1003144594 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 1500 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers met today at its regular session in the conference hall of Koulouba Palace under the chairmanship of President Alpha Oumar Konare. After examining items on its agenda, the council made a certain number of decisions. [passage omitted]

The council made the following appointments: At the Ministry of Defense, Lieutenant Colonel Sangassi Sangare is appointed deputy chief of general staff of the Armed Forces, and Lieutenant Silima Keita is appointed chief of staff of the Army. [passage omitted]

Niger

Ousmane Departs for UEMOA Summit in Ousgadougou

AB1403214194 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1900 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] President Mahamane Ousmane left Niamey this afternoon for Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, where he will represent Niger at the first summit of heads of member states of the Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa [UEMOA]. Tomorrow's maiden session is expected to examine the impact of the devaluation of the CFA franc on the economies of members.

Many observers believe that by deciding in July 1992 in Dakar, Senegal, to transform the West African Monetary Union, UMOA, into UEMOA, the heads of the member states demonstrated their determination to consolidate

their monetary union against the background of an international economic environment unfavorable to the continent.

The head of state was accompanied on the trip by several cabinet members, including the ministers of finance, commerce, mines and energy, as well as the secretary of state for cooperation.

Nigeria

Minister Promises Tough Measures Against Cults AB1403144794 Dakar PANA in English 1354 GMT 14 March 94

[Text] Lagos, 14 March (PANA)-Education and Youth Development Minister Iyorchia Ayu has promised tough new measures against cult activities on the campus of the country's universities. Ayu, speaking in Benin, capital of mid-west Edo State at the weekend, said that law abiding students and security agents would continue to "receive the full backing of government" in dealing with cultism. He did not elaborate, but urged parents and teachers to advise their wards against acts of indiscipline, saying that "beyond financing of facilities is the need for moral re-armament." "The nation is going through a despicable phenomenon in our school system. Our collective psyche has been assaulted by the tragic wave of secret cults on our campuses. Bizarre killings, intimidation, violence and indiscipline precipit, ed by activities of secret cults on our campuses is dail on the rise," the minister said.

His statement came in the wake of the closure of University of Lagos (UNILAG) on Saturday [12 March] by the authorities because of alleged cult activities by the students. On 2 March, suspected student cult members clashed openly at UNILAG, incurring the wrath of the student union, which accused the university authorities of inaction and launched an anti-cult capaign that crippled academic actitives for two days. In closing the university, the authorities cited "arson and general breakdown of law and order", saying that while they "condemn cult activities, hoologanism and indiscipline" should not be condoned. The registrar, Dr. A.A. Omotosho, has also announced the proscription of the students' union.

He said in a statement that "for the avoidance of doubt, all students union organisation by whichever name they are described, including students' union caretaker committee, are hereby proscribed." The registrar said that last Saturday, some 1,000 UNILAG students "raided" the Lagos home of the university's former lecturer, Idowu Sobowale, just as he addressed a press conference, alerting the nation on the "takeover of the institution by gangsters". The students were alleged to have destroyed household items and abducted the wife of Sobowale, who is now editor-in-chief of a metropolitan newspaper,

THE REPUBLIC. Sobowale's wife reportedly escaped when the bus in which she was being conveyed by the students ran out of fuel.

Cult activities, reminiscent of American-type campus fraternities in the 60s, assumed a worrying dimension in Nigerian institutions of higher learning in the 80s resulting in a government clamp down. Initially, the Nigerian campus societies were a varitable vanguard for anti-colonial campaigns in the country. But later day societies manifest violence and despicable tendencies. In the past months, security agents have reported the arrests of some 300 suspected student cult members in different parts of the country. Some of them were shown on national television in their strange dresses and carrying weapons, including matchetes, with which they reportedly terrorise the campus communities.

Further on Efforts Against Cults

AB1403142794 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 13 Mar 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In Nigeria, there has been trouble at the campus of Lagos University, UNILAG, home to 15,000 students. It involves the student union's attempts to clamp down on followers of secret cults on the campus. The leader of the university student's union, Omoyele Showore, has been leading the clamp down on the secret cults. He's been taken to hospital and is reportedly in a critical condition after being set upon by a gang. And now it seems the campus has been shut down. From Lagos, Obadina reports:

[Begin Obadina recording] The University of Lagos, UNILAG, has once again been closed down by the school authorities. The order to students to go home came after a fortnight of bloody clashes, as student union activists tried to expel members of violent secret cults from campus. On Friday [11 March] the president of the student's union, Mr. Omoyele Showore, was stripped naked, beaten up, injected with a poisonous substance, and left in a coma by a gang of about 60 thugs said to be either cult members or hoodlums hired by cult members to serve the violent warning to other students not to interfere with cult activities.

The students retaliated by burning a Peugeot 504 saloon car, said to belong to a cult member; by interrogating two cult suspects who were paraded naked before a crowd of 400; and by setting fire to the household effects of one member of the university administration suspected by the students to have left detained alleged cult suspects go free. Students in Lagos today expressed disappointment at the situation, saying that exams—in some cases, final exams postponed from last September—were due to start next week. They described cult members as academic fallouts whom they suspect to have instigated the troubles to avoid exams.

There are about five cults parading themselves on campus in Lagos. They call themselves (?Tie Eye), the Mafioso, the Black Cats, Buccaneers, and the Vikings). They have been banned from campus since the early 1980s and only began reappearing late last year. Their presence has been marked by intergang feudings, increased numbers of rape, and the presence of arms, including a grenade on campus. The cults, which seem to be degenerate forms of 1960s American-style college fraternities, are said to attract the sons of the Nigerian elite. Student union activists, who have detained suspected cult members and handed them over to the police, complain that the authorities are yet to take action against the cult suspects. [end recording]

Togo

Supreme Court Declares Opposition Majority

AB1403150994 Lome Radio Lome in French 1230 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The results of the second round of 20 February legislative elections were proclaimed today. The Togolese Supreme Court, during its extraordinary hearing held this morning at the Grand Hall of the Palace of Justice in Lome proclaimed the results of the 24 seats contested during the second ballot. Adjoa Louise Bayete reports.

[Begin recording] [Bayete] The Supreme Court in its judgement this morning confirmed the results of the 19 seats given by the National Electoral Commission [CNE], out of the possible 24. The court, through its president, Emmanuel Apedo, observed that the operations in the 19 constutuencies concerned took place in accordance with established procedures and were carried out satisfactorily.

Concerning the five seats in dispute, the Supreme Court gave its decision based on the documents submitted by the CNE. In the cases mentioned above, three of the five seats were won by the Action Committee for Renewal [CAR] and two by the Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD].

The president of Supreme Court, Emmanuel Apedoh, reads the list of the 24 successful candidates of the second round of the legislative election.

[Apedoh] Giving our decision on the election, on behalf the Togolese people and by virtue of the powers conferred on us, we proclaim the following deputies elected during the second ballot of 20 February: Memba Bayissa, UTD; Ouatara Amadou Abdou Karim, RPT [Togolese People's Rally], and his alternate, Djobo Biao Pepati; Allasani Saibou, RPT, and his alternate, Yaya Mama Gouni; Zewou Kosi Binyi, CAR, and his alternate, Nayo Yao; Zekari Fousseini, CAR, and his alternate Agoro Attakora; George Aidam Kwawu, CAR, and his alternate, Nutsukpo Kwami Gbega; Kwadjo Yao Kudjra, CAR, and his alternate, Robert Akonta Nyagbe; Mawusi

Edigbo Ekele, CAR, and his alternate, Azovide Yao Sewou; Abotsi Kouakou Kpomalou, CAR, and his alternate, Kokutse Kwami Kpoma; Kpegba Kafui Dzotzi, UTD, and his alternate, Amegadje Mawuli; Alagbe Bayedje, CAR, and his alternate, Koba Kovie; Dedo Kwadjo Amenyo, CAR, and his alternate, Apetso Akota Koffi; Kumesi Agbotse, CAR, and his alternate, Sewornu Atiso Aku Dodzi; Joseph Kouakou Koffigoh, Coordination of New Forces [CFN], and his alternate, Nyassenou Anani Semenuonam; Djadja Avornyo Kodjovi, CAR, and his alternate, Tovieku Mensa Agbesi; Segbo Kouassi Komla, CAR, and his alternate, Bokovie Kouassi Aze; Amegavie Madze, CAR, and his alternate, James Kouakou Amaglo; Sevidje Amavi, CAR, and his alternate, James Kouakou Amaglo; Sevidje Amavi, CAR, and his alternate, Anani Amouzou Komla; Anyinefa Dovi, CAR, and his alternate, Sokpoli.

We also proclaim elected as deputies during the second ballot: Adjavon Ata Mensa, UTD, and his alternate, Elizabeth Klomegah; Kumedji Kouame Phillipe, CAR, and his alternate, Ganyo Kodjo; Mateo Dankwa Tamakloe, CAR, and his alternate, Buka Mawuledzi Kodjo; Ayetor Kouassi Yentumi, CAR, and his alternate, Homenya Nunyava; and Aguda Moumouni, UTD, and his alternate, Katakpaou Isoyom. The results of votes cast will be published in the official Gazette of the Republic.

[Bayete] According to the results published today by the Togolese Supreme Court, 20 of the 24 seats were won by the CAR, two by UTD, and 2 by RPT. These results, added to first round results, give absolute majority to the opposition, UTD-CAR, which received 43 of the 81 seats in the National Assembly. The presidential group follows with 37 seats, with 35 going to RPT and two for Union for Justice and Development. The CFN obtained only one seat. [end recording]

CAR's Agboyibor on Results, Possible Coalition AB1403140094 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Excerpts] The Togolese Supreme Court announced its decision this morning. The two political parties opposing President Gnassingbe Eyadema won 43 out of the 81 seats in the National Assembly following the 6 and 20 February legislative elections. [passage omitted]

Since no single party won an absolute majority, what will the opposition do to accede to power, in view of the official and final results of the elections? Yao Agboyibor, leader of the Action Committee for Renewal [CAR], has this to say:

[Begin recording] [Agboyibor] Forming a coalition is an imperative, for although one can say that in theory no party won the majority, the people's situation is obvious. The results are being hailed as a victory by the opposition, which is a victory for all those who want to see things change in our country. So, there is a kind of spontaneous feeling for the forming of a coalition. Those

who champion the old order are together, while those of us who want change must come together. The Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD] and the CAR cannot, under the present circumstances, do otherwise but form a coalition. We have always called for such a move. The time has come for us to translate that call into a reality. A UTD- CAR coalition is imperative for the people. In fact, merely questioning the formation of such a coalition would throw into doubt the idea of such a coalition, which would be a pity.

[Unidentified correspondent] Let us assume that such a coalition would hold together. Which of you—the UTD's Edem Kodjo or you Mr. Agboyibor—will be the next prime minister of the Togolese Government?

[Agboyibor] The problem should not be viewed in terms of a choice between two persons. The parties offered their platforms to the people, who then chose. The results are there to confirm their choices. It is on the basis of these results that we can determine which party is in a better position to assume this fundamental responsibility of heading the government. Once a party has been chosen, its members will make internal choices.

[Correspondent] If I got you right, you mean that since the CAR won 36 seats and the UTD seven, the CAR should automatically demand the premiership.

[Agboyibor] It is not a matter of demanding, but of complying with the choice of the people. I think that as democrats we must take into account the election results as a criteria for solving the problem. If we emphasize individuals we will not succeed.

[Correspondent] It does not seem as though any consultations are currently under way between the UTD and the CAR regarding the appointment of a prime minister.

[Agboyibor] Oh, we have made contacts on the basis of the verdict and our contacts are ongoing. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in English at 1309 GMT on 14 March in a Lome-datelined item adds the following: "Agboyibor on Monday [14 March] told AFP that he was 'delighted' at the result, which he described as a 'victory for the Togolese people.' 'We are convinced that the consultations which will soon begin regarding the appointment of new leaders will lead to choices in line with the voting,' he said. 'Any other outcome would be a scandal."]

Opposition UTD Reacts to Publication of Results AB1403221694 Lome Radio Lome in French

AB1403221694 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Statement issued by the Togolese Union for Democracy in Lome on 14 March]

[Text] On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD], I acknowledge the publication of the results by the Supreme Court.

Despite obstacles of all kinds put in the way of the party during the election campaign, it has been officially recognized as a buffer group in the new National Assembly. Conscious of its uniqueness and placing itself resolutely above the fray, the UTD intends to strive as hard as possible to help achieve national reconciliation and economic recovery which are today the major priorities of the Togolese society.

[Signed] Edem Kodjo, UTD chairman for the Executive Committee.

Eyadema, Nigeria's Kingibe Discuss Bakassi Dispute

AB1403224694 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Text] The head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, received Nigerian Foreign Affairs Minister Bahagana Kingibe in his private residence in Lome II this morning. The Nigerian minister was accompanied to the presidential private residence by Ouattara Fambare Natchaba, his Togolese counterpart, and His Excellency Vincent Okobi, the Nigerian ambassador to Togo. After his discussions with the head of state, Mr. Kingibe had this to say to correspondents:

[Begin recording] [Kingibe] First of all, since the Supreme Court published the results of the recent legislative elections, we congratulated the Togolese people and expressed the hope that from now on there will be progress concerning the ruling of the country under a democratic regime and in line with the Constitution.

Of course, we also discussed the problem prevailing between Nigeria and Cameroon. As you know, President Eyadema took some initiatives with a view to mediate between the two countries. Recently, he sent my brother, the Togolese foreign minister, to Cameroon, which I also visited. The head of state and I reviewed the developments in the situation and reached a number of conclusions, mainly how to pursue dialogue in order to resolve the problem peacefully. This is the wish of everybody, including the Nigerian and Cameroonian leaders.

[Unidentified correspondent] In view of the recent developments in the situation, what conclusions did you reach?

[Kingibe] We stressed the need to relentlessly pursue efforts toward finding peaceful solutions to the dispute; that is, through dialogue. We also stressed the need to avoid at all costs violence and more tension on the peninsula. [end recording]

As for Anthony Ani, the Nigerian deputy foreign minister, he recently began a tour of five African countries for their support in the border dispute between his country and Campioon. He is expected to visit Gabon, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Zambia.

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